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No. 401. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 29th, 1884.

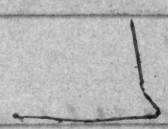
John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinese currency.

Synopsis.

In response to Department "Separate" instruction dated January 28th, refers to Hon. Seward's memorandum upon this subject, and encloses a printed copy.



No. 400. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 29th, 1884.

Honorable T. F. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your "Separate" instruction, dated January 28th, 1884, in which, at the instance of the Secretary of the Treasury, you request certain information in regard to the circulation of the precious metals, paper and metallic currency in China.

In response I cannot do better than to refer the Department

Department to Mr. Seward's
despatch, number 413. of
March 6th, 1878. to your
predecessor, Mr. Evarts,
enclosing a "Memorandum
"on the Currency of China."
In it the subject is very
ably and exhaustively
discussed. There has been
no change in the situation
as therein described nor have
I any additional information
bearing upon the subject.

For the convenience
1400. of the Department I enclose
a printed copy of the
Memorandum referred to.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Frederick Low.

Enclosure.

1. Mr. Seward's "Memorandum on the Currency of China."

Despatch No. 400,
Enclosure.

# Memorandum on the Currency of China.

It is well known that the Chinese Government do not issue coins of silver or gold, and that the pieces called by them "Ch'ien," by the English "Cash," and the French "Sapeque," from the Portuguese "sapeca," which are made of copper variously alloyed, are the only ones in use among them. They are circular and have square holes at the centre which are used for stringing them together. They are cast and not minted.

The places and mode of casting cash are regulated by Imperial statutes. Models are given out by the Board of Revenue at Peking. The standard weight is one mace (ch'ien) each, and the value, by Government standard, is the one thousandth part of a tael of silver of the Treasury scale. (Stauntons Penal Code, Sec. 118.) The casting of cash is under the control of the provincial Governors subject to the orders of the Board of Revenue, and theoretically care is taken that the issues shall be so managed that the supply shall be sufficient to meet the demands of the people, and not so great as to cause their depreciation relatively to silver.

A coin, if it can be called such, which is cast and not minted will as a matter of course be counterfeited. One made of a metal so base as copper, with alloys of a still baser sort, will be peculiarly liable to be counterfeited on the one hand and debased on the other. In this connection the following remarks, taken from the Commercial Guide of Dr. Williams will be found pertinent.

"Within the last few years the Government have taken strong measures to suppress "the private manufacture of cash but in vain. The capacity of the Governors is "strongly exemplified in its gross adulteration since the time of Kianghsi, about 150 "years ago. It is debased in the coarsest manner with iron dust and sand and pre- "sents a gritty appearance to the eye. In the reign of Taokwang, (1821-51) it "became so bad that it would not remunerate forgers to counterfeit it. In the reign "of Hsienfung, (1851-61) iron cash and paper notes were substituted for the copper "cash."

The currency of Peking gives special evidence of the irregularities which have marked its history. By a curious fiction every piece of cash is called two. Without being able to trace out the cause of this I have supposed that when the cash in use at a given period had been debased in value about one half, an effort was made to correct matters by issuing coin of standard merit, and ordering that each piece of the new issue should be taken as equal to two pieces of the old. The new issue in time became debased and confused with the old, until there was no recourse for the people but to call one cash two, irrespective of the issue.

Still later copper tokens of ten, twenty, &c. cash were issued, and these are now in circulation. They were never however of standard value. In 1869 one ten cash piece was worth about three of the single cash pieces of varying issues which were in circulation, and 525 of them were required to purchase a tael of silver. As each piece represented ten cash, and as every piece of cash was doubled by the custom already referred to, 10.500 nominal cash were equal to a tael. Their value has decreased relatively to silver since then, and at times 18.000 nominal cash are required to purchase a tael. The paper tiao of the city represents 1.000 nominal cash, while in theory, a tiao or string of cash should be equal to a tael.

In 1853-54 an effort was made to force the iron cash spoken of above, upon the people of the city but it signally failed. "It was thrown away about the walls "and byways, no one even thinking it worth the trouble of picking up."

It would seem indeed that the capital city and the north of China generally, have suffered more from irregular practices affecting the currency than the more southern districts. It is said that many iron cash are in circulation in Chihli, Shansi, and Shensi, and that an effort has been made in each considerable town to preserve a standard of value by counting more or less of the actual cash as equal to a tiao, so that the custom of the place must be known, before the person who has bought articles to any given value can tell how many actual pieces of money he is to pay for them.

At the ports open to foreign trade and in the southern provinces generally, the actual cash are counted and so passed for the purposes of a currency, but their intrinsic value varies, not only as between the ports, but at the several ports. From statements made by the Consuls of the United States to the Legation in the year 1873, I have derived the following results as to the value of the average cash of each port, relatively to the Haikwan or Customs tael.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| At Newchwang | 1 tael | = | cash | 1,909 |
| „ Shanghai | 1 „ | = | „ | 1,800 |
| „ Chinkiang | 1 „ | = | „ | 1,960 |
| „ Ningpo | 1 „ | = | „ | 1,868 |
| „ Foochow | 1 „ | = | „ | 1,605 |
| „ Amoy | 1 „ | = | „ | 1,736 |
| „ Swatow | 1 „ | = | „ | 1,668 |

Assuming these figures to be approximately correct, a range of relative values amounting to nearly twenty per cent. is shown.

Mr. KINGSMILL, writing at Shanghai about ten years ago, said:—
"Taking carefully picked cash, coined before 1820, such as are known in the market "as Hankow picked, the average weight is rather less than 1.00 ch'ien. Slightly "below this is what is known as Chinkiang cash, weighing from .940 to .943. Far "below either is the ordinary currency in Shanghai. Taking a sample rather above "than below what is known as fair quality, we will probably find it composed as "follows:—

| | |
|---|---|
| "Fair to good, (in numbers) | 500 |
| "Japanese and Foreign | 300 |
| "Debased of last two Emperors | 200 |
| | 1,000 |

"The average weight is about ch'ien 780 only.

The same writer shows that at Hankow, under circumstances which created special demand, cash varied in value relatively to silver as follows:—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1863..... | 1,000 cash | = | taels | 0.750 |
| 1864..... | „ „ | = | „ | 0.795 |
| 1865..... | „ „ | = | „ | 0.805 |
| 1866..... | „ „ | = | „ | 0.785 |
| 1867..... | „ „ | = | „ | 0.650 |

The tael quotations given show the averages of the years, but in 1865, the price ran up so high that 88½ tael cents were required to buy 1.000 cash, a range of relative value as compared with the price stated for 1867, of more than 33⅓ per cent.

Mr. WYLIE of Shanghai states that the cash of the 17th. century were made of copper, zinc, lead and tin, in the following proportions:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Copper ..... | 50.00 |
| Zinc ..... | 41.50 |
| Lead ..... | 6.50 |
| Tin ..... | 2.00 |
| | 100.00 |

Mr. KINGSMILL following these figures, estimates the cost of making 1.000 cash, weighing 1 ch'ien each, as follows:—

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Copper..... | @ taels | 15.00 | per picul. | taels, | 0.46875 |
| Zinc..... | „ | 5.20 | „ | „ | 0.12453 |
| Lead ..... | „ | 5.00 | „ | „ | 0.62031 |
| Tin ..... | „ | 15.00 | „ | „ | 0.02250 |
| | | | | Say Shanghai taels, | 0.63609 |

Assuming 6 °/₀ to be sufficient to defray the cost of coinage (casting), we arrive at about taels 0.675, as the price at which the Chinese Government could issue such cash. At the standard of 1.000 cash to the tael, the profit of the Government would amount to more than 30 °/₀.

We find, therefore, these facts existing:—

1st.—That cash vary greatly in weight and fineness;

2nd.—That their value, as compared with silver, is not constant;

3rd.—That they are not worth, when issued of standard weight and fineness, more than 70 °/₀ of their nominal value.

As a permanent standard of value then, the copper coinage of this Empire is unsatisfactory in the extreme. It is nevertheless the currency which is used in all the ordinary transactions of the people. The laborer receives his wages in it. The farmer calculates in it the outturn of his crops. The small consumers and small producers whose aggregate demands and supplies make up the great markets, find in it an index of the rise and fall of price. It can be shown even that at given times, copper cash appear to have a more stable purchasing power than silver, and an argument raised to sustain the proposition which has been advanced over and again that it forms "the "virtual monetary unit."

In passing, it may be remarked that the evils of an unstable currency are not now felt for the first time. It is said that in the Sung dynasty, (960 to 1127 A.D.) cash were made "so small that they were called geese eyes, and so thin that they "would swin upon the water," and every one has read what Marco Polo wrote of the vast issues of paper money by the Mongols, who reigned between 1280 and 1368 A.D. They found "rag money" in the land which they had conquered and while extending issues here, carried the practice into Persia, where paper of the sort is still called by the Chinese name "*Ch'aou.*" It has been stated that they abused the power to make money to such an extent that the discontent of the people due to this cause, did more than anything else to bring about their downfall.

When we turn from this statement of the unsatisfactory character of the copper currency to deal with the facts in regard to the use of silver, we meet again with much that is singular and confusing.

At the foreign Customs duties are demanded according to the Haikwan scale, and payments at the ports named below made in local taels are received at the following rates:—

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Newchwang..... | 100 | Haikwan | taels | = | Local taels | 108.50 |
| Tientsin ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 105.00 |
| Chefoo ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 104.40 |
| Hankow ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 108.75 |
| Kiukiang ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 106.31 |
| Chinkiang ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 104.21 |
| Shanghai ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 111.40 |
| Ningpo..... | „ | „ | „ | = Shanghai scale | „ | 111.40 |

South of Ningpo, duties are generally paid in dollars. So nearly as I have been able to learn local taels are valued, relatively to the Haikwan standard as follows:—

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amoy ..... | 100 | Haikwan | taels | = | Local taels | 110.00 |
| Tamsui..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 110.00 |
| Taiwan..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 111.37 |
| Swatow..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 110.00 |

At Foochow two local taels are used, one by foreign, the other by native merchants. 100 Haikwan taels are equal to 100.50 of the former, and 101.45 of the latter.

At several, if not all the ports, there are other taels known besides the Haikwan and the local commercial taels. One of these is called the "Kuping" or Treasury tael. It is not constant however with the Haikwan tael, as will be seen from the following table.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tientsin ..... | 100 | Haikwan | taels | = | Kuping taels | 103.40 |
| Hankow..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 101.01 |
| Shanghai ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 101.65 |
| Foochow ..... | „ | „ | „ | = | „ „ | 101.14 |

In a despatch addressed by Prince KUNG on the 9th of April 1877, to the foreign Ministers at Peking, he said:—"All payments to and from the provinces are "made in Kuping taels of pure silver."

The table shows that the Haikwan tael is better than the Kuping, and the provincial officers doubtless get the benefit of the difference.

It is suggestive of the lax ideas of currency and administration generally prevailing in China, that at one port, foreigners of one nationality pay their dues at the Customs at a rate different from that exacted of other foreigners, and that, at several ports, different rates are exacted of natives from those demanded from foreigners.

At Peking, Dr. WILLIAMS found five scales used for weighing silver, the tael of each weighing respectively, 548, 541, 552, 539 and 579 grains.

But while there seems to be and is much confusion, matters are not so bad as they appear, It is a fact that the weight of the Kuping tael has been very constant for the last 200 years. The catty of this scale has been quoted at Peking, as follows :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In 1580, by Le Compte ... ... ... | 596.044 | grammes. |
| „ 1769, by Clerc ... ... ... | 596.800 | „ |
| „ 1822, by Timkowski ... ... ... | 595.345 | „ |
| „ 1841, by Kupffner ... ... | 595.135 | „ |

It is also reported as follows :—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *At Soochow.*— In 1779, by Collas ... | 598,976 | grammes. |
| *At Shanghai.*— „ 1857, by Wylie ... | 596.800 | „ |

The same thing seems to be true in regard to the scale used at Canton for weighing silver, as will be seem from the following authorities:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| In 1710, Williams ... ... ... | 601.104 | grammes. |
| „ 1779, Collas ... ... ... | 601.328 | „ |
| „ 1710, Milburn ... ... ... | 601.190 | „ |
| „ 1828, Thompson ... ... ... | 600.658 | „ |
| „ 1845, Rondot ... ... ... ... | 600.432 | „ |
| „ 1847, Carvalho ... ... ... | 601.112 | „ |
| „ 1857, Rondot ... ... ... ... | 600.432* | „ |

In view of the constancy for long periods of the scales indicated, it may very well be supposed that the Chinese throughout the Empire are acquainted with a standard scale, the Kuping for instance, and that the variation of local scales from the standard is clearly defined and understood.

The actual scales or balances used by the Chinese are more or less well made. Those oftenest seen in shops, &c. have a brass beam suspended from a standard, and two brass basins carried by brass chains. It cannot be supposed that they are very sensitive and accurate. Others of a finer sort are made in the same way, the beam being of ebony or ivory, and the basins of brass suspended by silken cords. Others are fashioned like our steelyards. These all would be condemned of course, in assay offices or mints in Europe or America.

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* This scale is probably the Kuping but I am not able at the moment to verify the point.

Chinese assays of silver are equally defective. The process at Peking appears to be a simple one in which the borate of soda is used with or without lead, according to the proportion of alloy. At Shanghai, nitre and lead are used with white sand, and at the last moment of the melting process a piece of the white oxide of arsenic is thrown in to give splendor to the metal. Cupellation and the use of acids are not known.

The Trade dollar was declared by the assay of 1873 to be .8961 fine, instead of .900. While this is a wider deviation than is allowed in the mints of Europe or America for "toleration" or "remedy," it is so close that I have suspected that it was based on the well-known standard of the coin. In the same year, I endeavored to have an assay made at Shanghai but found many unnecessary difficulties raised. At the assay of the Hongkong dollar, the result obtained was a fineness of .8944. An allowance was then made of 5/1000 for silver remained incorporated with the lead, and the dollar declared to be 900 fine. This assay was made in the presence of the Assayer of the Hongkong Mint, who exhibited also the foreign process of assaying. It is reported that the Chinese were highly interested in the skillfulness displayed in the process.

After the assay of the Hongkong dollar a proclamation was issued declaring that 111.1.1 taels weight of that coinage should be held equal to 100 Haikwan taels and after the assay of the Trade dollar, it was in the same way declared that 111.9 taels weight of the American coin should be held equal to 100 taels, a proportion not justified by the actual fineness of the coin nor by the fineness declared by the assay. I am informed however that 108 taels weight of dollars are frequently accepted as equal to 100 taels Haikwan.*

Chinese assaying establishments are called Kungkoo. They are not found in all the cities of the empire nor even in many of the most important. Mr. BILLEQUIN, Professor of Chemistry in the Imperial College of this city, is of the opinion that very little silver is refined here. In a report of the United States Consul at Newchwang

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The Inspector-General of Customs has given me a memorandum on the weight and fineness of the Haikwan tael. According to this, it should weigh 1 oz. 4 dwts. $3\frac{84}{100}$ grains Troy, say $589\frac{84}{100}$ grains, or 37.578 grammes. The Haikwan catty would be, therefore, 601.248 grammes, or something more than the Canton and Kuping catties. An assay of the Trade dollar was made at Canton in 1873. The Assayers declared that 100 Trade dollars weighed 72.68 taels by the Haikwan standard. At an earlier assay 100 Hongkong dollars were declared to weigh 71.92 taels. The actual weight of the Trade dollar is 420 grains, that of the Hongkong dollar 416 grains. The tael, at these rates, would be $577\frac{875}{1000}$ and $578\frac{402}{1000}$ grains, and the catty 599.216 and 599.766 grammes.

Haikwan silver is supposed to be perfectly pure. Foreign dollars are accepted by the Haikwan standard only with an allowance which gives a result in pure silver. It is not likely that in estimating the value of silver otherwise current, the proportion of alloy is arrived at and reported with equal care. In point of fact, as might be expected, Haikwan silver is not up to the assumed standard. On the 19th of June 1876, thirty-five ingots of Canton silver, said to be of the Haikwan standard, were assayed at the Osaka Mint. Thirteen of these proved to be .9820 fine, seventeen .9855, two .9860, and three .9845. On the 13th, fourteen shoes were assayed, resulting as follows:—Two .9865, eight .9860, two .9855, and two .9850. It thus appears that Haikwan silver contains really about $1\frac{1}{2}$ % of base metal, and that 109.5 taels weight about of dollars 900 fine should be held equal to 100 taels of Haikwan silver. An officer formerly connected with the Canton Customs informs me that the bullion received there is cast into 10 taels ingots for transmission to the Capital and that these ingots are of about 98 touch.

made in 1870, he states that:—"There is no Kungkoo here; any one who chooses "may fabricate ingots of silver, and the only check upon such persons is their fear to "lose their reputation for honesty."

The Commissioner of Customs at Chefoo reported in the same year that "seri- "ous inconvenience, delay and losses has resulted to foreign merchants from the quan- "tity of inferior sycee in circulation. To remedy this a Kungkoo has been established "but the country buyers refuse to recognize it, and suspension of business with the in- "terior has resulted." In 1865, the Commissioner at Hankow wrote:—"In the early "days of this port, the demand for sycee was so sudden and extensive, that Shanghai "was unable to supply standard sycee in sufficient quantities. It thus arose that "sycee of an inferior quality was transmitted to this port, and on its being found that "adulterated silver was accepted as equivalent to standard, the practice originally "exceptional, became the rule, and sycee, depreciated to the extent of two, three, or "even four mace per shoe, was regularly manufactured for the Hankow market. "About two years ago, an attempt was made to established a Kungkoo, or assay "office, which was unsuccessful and the failure was followed by an enormous increase "in the depreciation of silver. It was not however, until the present month that an "assay office, duly recognized by the Chinese and the Consular Authorities was "opened."

In the absence of assay offices the Chinese rely upon the *touch*. Le Compte writing in 1790, says what is equally true at this day:—"They are so expert in "guessing at the goodness of any piece of silver by looking on it only, that they are "seldom mistaken, especially if it be melted after the manner practised by them. They "know the goodness in three ways; by the color, by small holes which are made in "melting, and by the small circles which the air makes on the surface of the metal "when it cools. If the color be white, the holes small and deep, if the circles be many "and those close and very fine, especially towards the centre of the piece, then the "silver is pure, but the more it differs from these three indications so much the "more alloy it has."

While it appears that uncertainties arising from the multiplicity of standards, the imperfect construction of scales, and the defective means of testing the quality of silver must prove a great source of annoyance to those who have occasion to use the metal, in one way and another fairly accurate results seem to be reached. This is the case at least as between the open ports. There is of course frequent occasion to remit bullion from the northern and riverine ports to Shanghai. I am informed that such remittances almost invariably result according to the expectations of shippers.

It follows from what has been said that however defective may be the test of silver and of the scales by which it is weighed, no such failures attend its use for purposes of a currency as have been experienced in the case of the copper currency already described.

That silver is the real standard of value is well-understood by the Chinese. We have seen that a cash is supposed to be the one thousandth part of a tael of silver. This is the declaration of the government and indicates the view taken by it.

But cash pass among the people for just so much as they consider them worth, having regard to their intrinsic value, and their convenience as a medium of exchange. The government recognizing its failure to keep the coin up to standard, have accepted the action of the people and receive cash in payments of taxes only at the exchange current among them. The dues collected at the foreign Customs are in silver and remittances from the provinces to the capital are in silver or in banker's bills calling for silver. The Penal Code provides that soldiers and citizens shall not use in their houses any utensils of copper, saving such as are permitted by the law, and that any excess shall be given over to the government at a stated price in silver. Importations of copper from Yunnan are similarly not to cost more than a stated price in silver.

What has been said will indicate the position of cash and silver in the Chinese currency. It remains to speak of gold.

It cannot be doubted that the latter forms a part of the currency, but this is true only to a limited extent. It is more properly a merchandise which is bought and sold in the market.

The tendency throughout Asia is to place a lower relative value upon gold than prevails in Europe and America. In China this tendency has been a normal one, and not the result of legislation, for in one sense, gold and silver are equally articles of commerce, that is to say neither has been coined. The case has been different in Japan, gold and silver having been long coined there. At the date of Commodore Perry's treaty, gold judged by the face value of coins in circulation, was worth only five times as much as silver. It is understood that the Government received the whole production of the mines, and as no considerable import or export of the precious metals was allowed, it was able to establish their relative value by decree.

Quotations of these metals in China and Japan must be received with the reservation that one cannot be sure how far pure gold has been weighed against pure silver. I think that as a rule, the gold is purer than the silver.

Rondot gives the following table:—

| *Years.* | *City.* | *Gold.* | *Silver.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1285 | ... | 1 | 10 |
| 1375 | ... | 1 | 4 |
| 1779 | Peking | 1 | 17½ |
| 1810 | Canton | 1 | 10 |
| 1821 | Peking | 1 | 21 |
| 1844 | Canton | 1 | 17 |
| 1845 | „ | 1 | 16 |

These quotations are so widely and irregularly at variance that their accuracy may be greatly questioned. It is the general fact, however, which is in point and regarding this the two following quotations are sufficient.

Lecompte writing in 1690 says:—"Europeans make a good market of gold, "because in China a pound of if bears but the same proportion to a pound of silver "as one to ten, whereas among us it is one to fifteen." Sir George Staunton writing a century later, made the following statement:—"In general, the value of silver has "borne a much greater proportion to that of gold in China than in Europe, excepting "when an extraordinary demand for the latter by foreign merchants has increased "the rate of it."

I have been at some pains to collect statistics of the relative values of the metals for recent years. The general result shows that while the markets have been sensitive to the European demand, there have been some wide fluctuations. The lowest quotation in the last 30 years is 1 to 12.8, (at Shanghai in 1855), the highest is 1 to 17.5, (at Peking in August, 1876.)

There is here an exchange for the purchase and sale of gold at which the price is determined for the day. Whether similar exchanges may be found in other cities I do not know. I imagine however that there is relatively more gold in circulation at Peking than at other leading points, for the reason that a great deal of trade with Mongolia, Central Asia and Siberia centres here bringing in that metal, and that persons of the official class coming here for greater or less periods, find it more convenient to carry than silver. There is a constont flow of gold in commerce from the northern ports to Shanghai and the south, but the quantity of it so moved is not great.

Paper obligations of one kind and another, take an important place in the currency of the Empire. None of this, so far as I know, is issued or sanctioned by the Government, and all issues which are intended for currency purposes, are to be classed as "shin plaster" paper, as the American term is. Probably however 75 °/₀ of the smaller business of Peking is transacted with such paper. In some cities, as at Shanghai for instance, it is never seen. Foochow has long enjoyed prominence in the use of paper money, and it is likely that the practice followed here and in that city will be found to exist in many others. One author says:—"Bank notes, payable "to bearer, are in use throughout the Empire, and are issued by the great houses of "business, and accepted in all the principal towns." At Shanghai, by far the greater part of the merchandise purchased by Chinese from foreigners is paid for by orders drawn by the native bankers on themselves, and having usually ten days to run. Formal bills of exchange drawn by bankers in one city upon those in others are greatly used. At times a considerable part of the revenue transmitted to Peking from other parts of the Empire, has been sent up in this way.

It may be assumed I think, that paper in its different forms takes the place of silver and cash in the transaction of business generally to a very considerable extent and that this result is largely due to the facts that cash are inconvenient to handle, and that the use of silver is attended with difficulties not met with where a coinage system exists.

The failure of the Chinese to coin precious metals is due to a variety of reasons. Du Halde says quaintly:—"It is easy to judge that there would be many "debasers of money in China, if silver was coined, since the small pieces of copper are so "often counterfeited." Dr. Williams says:—"Silver and gold coin were both used "in China, at different periods of her ancient history, but never have been issued by "the present or any modern dynasty. A consciousness of their inability to maintain "the standard alloy and weight throughout their vast domain and a knowledge of "the facility with which the coins could be counterfeited combined with their "ignorance of the advantages of a gold and silver currency, and a disposition to "meddle with the coinage, explains why the Manchus have never attempted to "circulate silver coins." Issues of silver, moreover could be made only at or near the intrinsic value of the metal used. Upon such issues the Government could make but small profit, while as we have seen, the profit upon issues of cash is very great.

It cannot be supposed however, that the Chinese are different from other people in their need for and their capacity to appreciate a currency convenient in form and based on value. The Mexican dollar is much used at Shanghai and it is always at a premium. Two years ago it ran up in a few months from 72.5 to 82.4 per cent. of the the local tael, a range of ten per cent. nearly, in the relative value of silver conveniently coined and silver as bullion. Twenty years ago the Carolus dollar came to be at par with the tael. At Canton dollars although passed by weight, are generally, as we have seen, at a small premium over bullion. In this city they pass freely, but at a slight discount. At Tientsin as I am informed, they have sometimes been in such demand that it would pay to import them from Shanghai. Experience shows as I believe that if the supply of foreign dollars were constant and sufficient, they would come to be the money of account at all the open ports.

In making this statement I am aware that it involves the proposition that the Government would have no serious difficulty in establishing a Mint, and in putting out coins of determined value. They would need only to offer such money to their people to have it accepted. It would not be necessary to declare it legal tender, but on the contrary, better that this should not be done, saving in respect of Customs dues. At first, doubtless, it would be regarded with suspicion, as anything is in China which is strange. The readiness of the Government to receive it would commend it greatly to the people, and their freedom to receive or to reject it would dispel doubt. The absence of legal tender laws would prevent any movement to debase the coin, for so soon as debased the people would discover and reject it. Well executed coins would be so difficult to counterfeit as to prevent danger of this kind. In point of fact, all the reasons would exist for the acceptance of such coins which have induced the acceptance so widely of certain foreign coins, and many more beside.

That great opposition to the establishment of a Mint must be excepted, is manfest. Foreign bankers appear to prefer to have the currency in its present irregular and uncertain condition, doubtless because they make a profit from it. How much more native bankers and money changers, and receivers of the revenue and disbursing officers will strive to uphold the existing system may be readily imagined.

It is well known however, that the Chinese Central Authorities, and some of their leading provincial officers are alive to the evils of the present system, and disposed to introduce remedies, and it may be predicted with safety that a coinage system will be adopted within a near period. I do not say within five or ten years or attempt to anticipate the date. It is coming to be a felt want and such wants create their remedy.

It is evident that no step short of the establishment of a Mint can effect a radical improvement of the currency. Gold and silver must be coined in order to be convenient for use, and such coins must be authoritatively issued, in order to be accepted without hesitation or doubt. The object to be kept in view then, is the establishment of a Mint and nothing less.

It may be possible, however, to correct some of the evils of the existing currency. I think that we are faily entitled to ask :—

1ST.—That the Government shall declare in what tael the Customs and other dues payable by foreigners are to be discharged. It appears from Prince Kung's despatch that the action of provincial officers in demanding such payments by a higher scale than the Kuping is a departure from the established rule of the Government in regard to the receipt and disbursement of the public monies.

2ND.—The standard tael having been decided upon, its exact equivalent in grains troy and grammes should be declared. Looking to the inferiority of native scales, there can be no certainty in passing bullion until this has been done.

3RD.—The purity of the silver of the standard tael should also be declared. There is no such thing in China, or elsewhere for that matter, as silver 1,000 fine and it is necessary to have a standard purity declared, not only in order to effect certainty in passing bullion, but also in dertermining the equivalent values of the foreign coins in circulation.

4TH.—The values of local taels relatively to the standard tael should be restated and declared.

5TH.—The values of foreign coins should be restated and declared.

It is not necessary, as I think, to enter upon an extended argument to show that the steps mentioned above are of much importance, or to explain why silver only is spoken of. All that has preceeded in this paper indicates that silver is the real standard of value in China, that much uncertainty exists in its use, and that, if effort is to be made to improve matters without a radical departure from the existing system, the suggestions made are perhaps those which, if caried out, would offer the best results.

It is not necessary either, to point out the treaty stipulations which would justify the effort to effect such an improvement of the currency. When foreign nations agreed with China for the payment of duties upon merchandise imported and exported by their people, it is not to be supposed that they imagined that the unit of the currency was an unknown quantity, or that they can be satisfied to have a situation continue which does not give uniform results.

It is desirable of course, to proceed toward the accomplishment of reforms in this country, or in any other, within existing lines of administration. Perhaps a leading merit of the suggestions advanced lies in the fact that it would not be necessary to bring any new instrument of administration into use. It would be quite possible for this Government to direct its provincial officers to take steps in concert with the foreign Customs establishment, to bring about all the reforms indicated.

There can be no doubt, moreover, that steps so taken would prove an advance toward the ultimate object. They would expose more clearly the faults of the existing system and they would break down in some measure, the interests which are upholding it. All considerations then, those of the immediate interests of commerce, and those which look to the ultimate and complete reformation of the currency to the advantage of all, to that of the native indeed, far more than to the foreigner, indicate that it will be wise to prosecute this business with all appropriate earnestness.

GEORGE F. SEWARD.

PEKING, *February 20th*, 1878.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 401. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 29th 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Visits of war vessels to Chinese non treaty ports.

Synopsis.

Covers copy of correspondence with Consul at Foochow and Admiral upon this subject.

No. 401. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 29th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose for your information copies of a correspondence between this Legation, the Consul at Tchefoo, and Admiral Davis. 1/401. 2/401.

I trust that my suggestions to the Admiral will meet with your approval.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

John Russell Young

Enclosures.

## Enclosures.

1. Mr. Wingate to Mr. Young.
   No. 81. March 18th, 1884.
2. Mr. Young to Admiral Mavis.
   26/1884. March 29th, 1884.

Despatch No. 401.

Enclosure 1.

1/81.

Mr. Dingle to Mr. Young

in

March, 18th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a translation of a note which I have recd from Lin, Taot'ai, regarding late action of a British surveying vessel and the consequent anxiety of the people in the Foochow district. The Taot'ai intimates a rule, that hereafter in such cases a despatch should be sent (through the Consul) to the high officials, so that notice can be given to the people and trouble avoided. —

I can understand how, as in the present instance, the ignorant people might be much alarmed by the —

1/81

action

action of surveying parties; and it seems to me there is a propriety in notifying the people before landing and placing marks upon their rocks &c.

But the right of vessels of war to visit non-treaty ports rests upon special treaty provisions, and I fear that a recognition of the claim of the Taotai, in its direct terms, might be construed by the Chinese officials into a requirement that all visits of men-of-war to non-treaty ports should be previously notified to the provincial authorities.

It is my own belief that much good would be done if our national vessels occasionally visited non-treaty ports and exchanged courtesies with

the

the local officials. As it is, I do not suppose, there is any present likelihood of our vessels landing surveying parties; but I thought proper to reply to the Taot'ai that I would report the matter to you. I enclose a copy of this reply. — 2/81

I have &c.

(Signed) J. C. A. Wingate.

U. S. Consul.

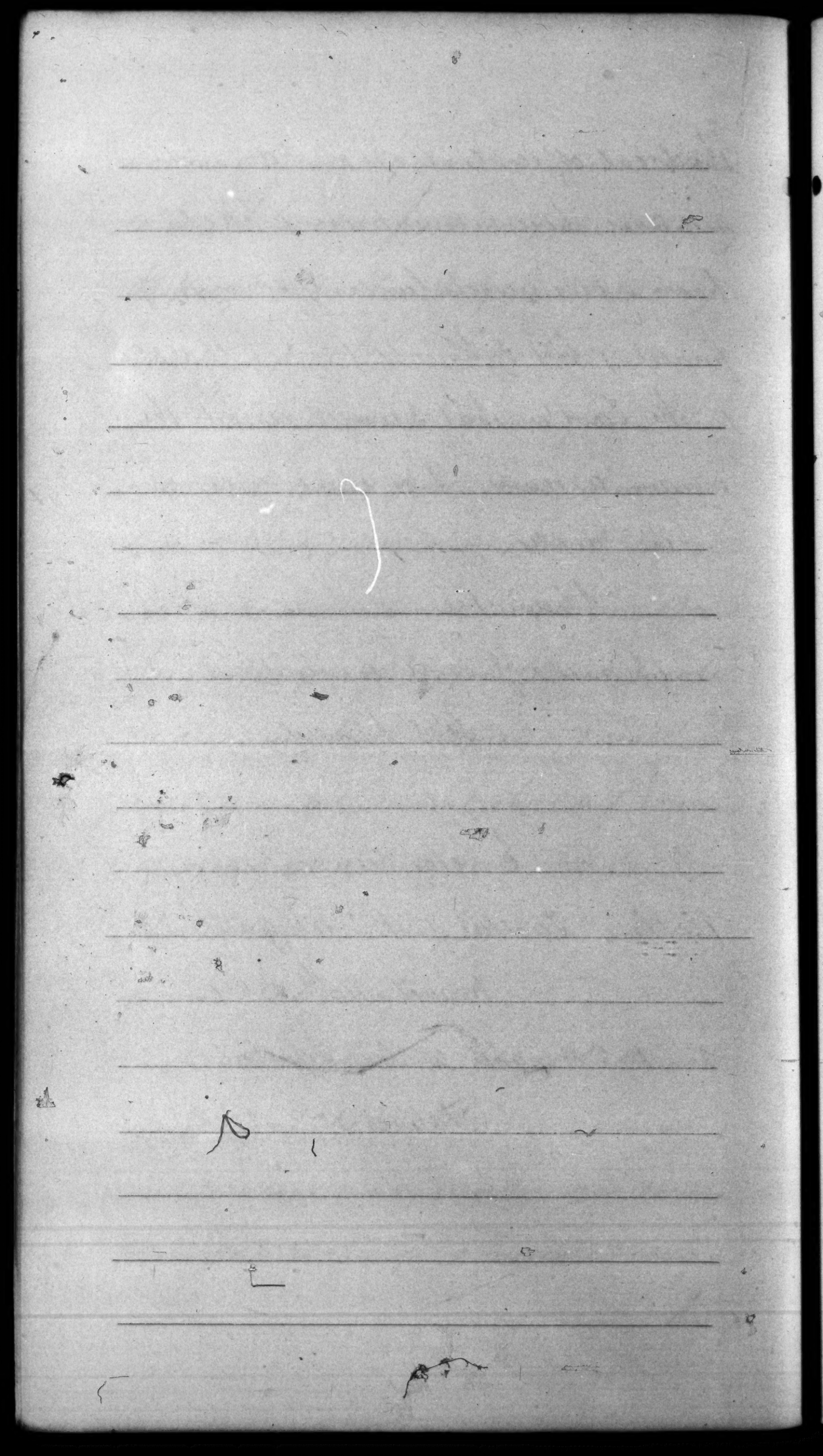
— Enclosures —

1. Lin Taot'ai to Mr. Wingate.

March, 14th, 1884.

2. Mr. Wingate to Lin Taot'ai.

March, 18th, 1884.



Lin Taotai to Consul Wingate.

March, 14th, 1884.

Without prefacing - I have a petition from the Cantonment and Magistrate at Fu chang reporting that foreign steamer and launch lately anchored in the sea ports (or mouths) Wan ngan Guard Station and Lien pan harbour, in the jurisdiction of that magistracy, and used white line for marks. At the time a deputy went in haste to inspect and states that it was (a) British gunboat surveying the channels; that the country people, not knowing the actual facts, were very much alarmed and in doubt &c &c.

This petition in reply coming forward; I find from the records that hitherto

hitherto on foreign steamers proceeding to the various localities to survey the channels there has first been a despatch sent us communicating it so that directions might in turn be given the several jurisdictions along the coast for protection. In 1877 the British gunboat "Nassau" surveying the sunken rocks and shoals along the coast of Fokien and Chekiang, the British Consul by representation requested Their Excellencies (the Gov. General or Governor) to issue a passport (therefor) as is on record.

As to whether or not said gunboat is, this time, surveying the channels, & have by note requested the British Consul to examine and favour me with a reply

reply.

At present when there is an affair in Annam one cannot but be more than ordinarily careful as a means to protection.

Hereafter when steamers have surveying to do one must (sometime) in advance send (me) a despatch communicating it, so that (I) may direct the subordinate jurisdictions to notify (by proclamation) the country people so as to avoid its giving rise to doubt and anxiety and (the parties getting) locked in a feud.

With this I repeat &c &c

with a card.

Mr. Wingate to Lin Tsao-'ai.

March, 18th, 1884.

I have been favoured with your note of the 14th inst. reporting the fact that, lately, through misunderstanding the purpose of a British gunboat which was surveying in the Fuchung District, the people were much alarmed and in doubt. You intimate the importance of Steamers having surveying to do notifying the fact beforehand, so as to avoid giving rise to doubt and anxiety &c. &c. —

This coming to me, it is my duty to report it to the U. S. Minister at Peking for his consideration.

I use the occasion to repeat my wishes for your happiness, and enclose my card.

Despatch No. 401.
Enclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Admiral Davis.

No 26/1884. March, 29th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a despatch from Mr. Wingate our Consul at Foochow.

Mr. Wingate is an able and discreet officer, and any suggestion he may make is worthy of consideration.

The right of the vessels of our navy to visit the non-treaty ports is undoubted. I believe much good arises from visits of this character. The exchange of courtesies, the meeting of your officers with Chinese officials, and the presence of our flag. While I do not agree with the suggestion of

the

the Tsao'ai, to which Mr. Mingalé refers, that a rule should be adopted, giving the Chinese local authorities notice of a proposed visit, it would be well to do so when convenient, especially now, when the country is in anxious condition as to its foreign relations.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

No. 402. Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 29th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Inspection of Consulates.

Synopsis.

Refers to Department instruction number 217. Will set out on tour of inspection April 2nd.

No. 402.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 29th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Sir:-

As a further reference to your instruction number 217, dated January 29th, 1884, I have the honor to say that I shall leave on April 2nd, in obedience to your instructions, to make the tour of the Consulates.

I have sent a copy of your despatch to Admiral Davis and have requested him to give me a vessel at

at Shanghai. I shall go to Hongkong and Canton direct to look personally into the emigration question referred to in my despatches, numbers 376. 382. and 392. and dated respectively March 7th, 14th, and 24th, and about which I feel much anxiety.

I shall be accompanied by Mr. B. C. Atterbury, who will act as interpreter in my intercourse with the Chinese Authorities, and Mr. L. A. Bergholz, my private secretary.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards

Sent by to file

No. 403.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 29th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Claim of Peter K. L. Leale.

Synopsis.

In response to Department instructions numbers 211 and 219. refers to despatches numbers 377 and 396. No record of any such claim.

No. 403.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 29th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:-

In response to your instructions, numbers 211. and 219. of January 22nd and 31st, in regard to the demand of Mr. Peter K. L. Cole against the monies recently paid by China in liquidation of the "Ward Claims", I have the honor to refer you to my earlier despatches, numbers 377. of March 10th, and 396. of March 27th, and

to

to add that I can see no reason to hope that any papers or other evidence in support of Mr. Cole's claim are of record either in this Legation or the Consulate General at Shanghai.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

A. Russell Gray

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards
&
Mr Pierce Rhoades

1 One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Chester Holcombe to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Salary account.

Synopsis.

Forwards statement of account for quarter ending March 31st, 1884.

TM

No 1 One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to submit herewith a statement of my account for salary for the quarter ending this day. 1/4

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant.

Chester Holcombe

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Statement of salary account for quarter ending March 31st, 1884.

Refer question of treaties to Dept. Obtain opinion of Dept. of Justice. May 21. 84. Cirtis.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
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Asks instructions in case of receiving letters of marque &c. Cirtis

Encloses copy of note from Mr. Edwards dated March 26. to Mr. Yang & note to Ch

No. 404.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

New Orleans Cotton Exposition.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 343.
China will take part but asks assurance that steamers who may be sent will be allowed to land at New Orleans.
Reports conversation with Foreign office on this topic.

No. 404.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

In my despatch number 343. dated January 31st, 1884. I referred to the President's invitation to China to take part in the Cotton Exhibition to be held in New Orleans, and feared that the objections which had arisen in the minds of the authorities, and which were then presented to you, might prevent an acceptance.

Frelinghuysen

Feeling however, the importance of this proposed exhibition, especially in the great commercial city of the South, I pressed the Yamên on several occasions, dwelling upon the gratification it would be to the United States to have China take part, and that it would also show the strength and buoyancy of China to be able, at a time when she was concerned with external affairs, to do her part in a festival of peace.

The Ministers of the Yamên finally agreed to accept the invitation. They said

said, however, that on one point they would request special information. A part of their exhibit would be their cotton looms in which they would show the process of weaving. It would be necessary to send weavers, and, as they belonged to the laboring class and were excluded under the treaty, the Government would desire some assurance that they would be permitted to visit New Orleans and return.

I informed the ministers that the invitation of the President involved in itself all the rites of hospitality, that

that an exhibition of Chinese industry meant the attendance of Chinese workmen, and that I did not doubt that the Government would permit the weavers to land, do their part in the Exhibition and return home.

As this is an important point, I hasten to bring it to your attention. If the assurance I have given, namely, that all Chinese subjects who may be required to maintain the Chinese display can come and go freely, meets with your disapproval, please telegraph me in order that

2

I may acquaint the Government. My impression is that the number will be small — so far as I now know — simply a few weavers in cotton and, perhaps, silk.

Should there be a difficulty on this point, I am afraid it will amount to China withdrawing from the exhibition. She cannot very well show Chinese methods of labor without the attendance of Chinese laborers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Ruse & Comp

Ack by us to office

docket May 24 for cipher.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 405. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Return of Admiral Enomotto to Peking.

Synopsis.

Refers to Department instruction number 213. Admiral Enomotto will return to China. "Order "of the Dragon" conferred upon him by the Emperor of China.

No. 405. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have read with care your despatch number 213. dated January 23rd, 1884., and your confidential despatch to my colleague, Mr. Bingham. I am gratified to know that the Department approved of the views I expressed to Admiral Enomotto in my despatch number 280. of November 12th, 1883.

Mr. Yoshida, the Japanese Chargé

Chargé d'Affaires called on me yesterday to say that Admiral Enomotto would return to Peking.

The custom of the Chinese Government is to confer upon retiring Ministers the "Order of the Dragon." This has always been sent to Envoys. As I did not learn from Admiral Enomotto that he had secured this distinction, and fearing that it would have a bad effect upon the Tokio Cabinet if any distinction were made between the Representatives of Japan and Representatives

of

of other countries, I ventured to suggest to Prince Kung informally and confidentially the propriety of conferring that Order upon Admiral Enomotto. H.I.H. promptly acceded to my suggestion. The letter of Admiral Enomotto in acknowledgment, although a private note, I venture to send as showing the impression this act of courtesy on the part of Prince Kung made upon the mind of the Admiral. 1/406

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure

# Enclosure.

1. Letter of Admiral Enomotto.

Despatch No. 405.
Enclosure.

Mr Enomoto to Mr Young.

My dear Colleague.

Only a few hours before the receipt of your kind letter, I received a red note from the Tsung-li-yamen saying that they have asked H.C.J.M. to confer upon me the Chinese decoration as a sign of their good feeling towards me like as German and Russian Ministers.

I was affected very much by this distinction.

I remain

my

my sincere thanks to you
for your friendly feeling
for Japan generally and
for me specially.

I hope to
see you soon somewhere
especially in our country.

Good bye!

Yours truly
(sgd) Enomoto Takeaki

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED

Mr Kieckhoefer
&
Mr Edwards

No. 406. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Account for salary.

Synopsis.

Forwards a statement of this account for quarter ending this day.

No. 406. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward herewith a statement of my account for salary for the quarter ending this day. 1/406.

The Department will note that, in accordance with the statement made in my despatch number 355. of February 13th, I have credited the Government with $125.

being

being the amount received for passport fees during the year 1883.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.

1. Account for salary for quarter ending March 31st, 1884.

Acknowledged
Jan 22/84

May 22/84
N.S.T.E.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED.

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1884

Mr Edwards

No. 407. Eight Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to

the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Public sentiment in China.

Synopsis.

Forwards copies of reports from our Consuls upon the temper of the Chinese people, and military movements, and comments briefly upon them.

No 407. Eight Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

To

The Honourable,

Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir,

(As will be seen) in my despatch (omit) to the Consul General, (which forms (omit) an Enclosure to No 308, dated, December, 24th, 1883.) I requested him to obtain from the various Consulates information as to the state of public opinion throughout China, especially in reference to the present abnormal condition

condition of public affairs, arising out of complications with France. The importance of this inquiry in considering that we have so many American citizens at the ports and at missionary stations in the interior, whose protection is the duty of the Legation, will be apparent to the Department.

From reports which have been furnished in response to this suggestion it will be found that there is a warlike spirit in various provinces. Mr. Stevens says that in Ningpo there is "a continuous preparation for war by those in authority". New forts have been built, and old ones repaired. Mr. Stevens believes that

the

1/407.

the harbour of Ningpo will be a naval rendez vous for China in the event of a war. I note also that preparations to impede navigation at Ningpo. are in embryo. Mr. Stevens estimates the number of soldiers as 16,000 but should necessity arise, there might be 30,000. It is pleasant to note that the temper of the people towards foreigners is friendly and cordial.

Mr. Bergholz informs the Legation that all is quiet at Chinkiang. 2/1407.

From Kiuchuang, I learn, in the report of Mr. Bandinel, that there are important military movements. At Port Arthur there are six thousand troops, under a Mahommedan leader 3/1407.

well

"well disciplined, strong and free
"from opium smoking". Instructions
have been sent to the Tartar General
to raise two thousand more, but this
experiment seems to languish from the
want of funds. There is no sentiment
of ill will towards foreigners.

4/407. Tientsin as the gateway to
Peking, the most important commer-
cial city in the north, and the home
of the Viceroy Li, is worthy of special
notice. Tientsin is the head-quarters
of serious military preparations, the
functions of Li, at this time, being
practically those of a lieutenant general
of the empire. There are eight fortified
camps where are quartered 4.800
troops - one half cavalry, the
remainder

remainder infantry. An additional force of 3,000 is being raised. The enlistment system really amounts to a conscription, or it might be a levy en masse, something akin to the press-gang which was in vogue in England during the last century. The term of service is not specified. The infantry soldier receives $3.60 a month the cavalryman $7.20 out of which he must provide for his horse. The soldiers furnish their food and clothing. They are armed with foreign guns, and drilled according to western - I presume German tactics.

- Mr. Minigate does not note at Foochow any special military movements except the multiplication of

5/407

of barriers in the city. We is not sure whether this is meant to guard against foreigners, or prevent receiving. There is a small militia force at Foochow, three hundred perhaps, each soldier paid a 1000 cash, or 1$. per month. A thousand troops have been brought from one point, and three thousand are expected from another. The same complaint comes from Foochow, that we hear elsewhere, namely, the want of money. It was proposed by the Viceroy to raise a million of taels or say 1,400,000 dollars, as a "patriotic contribution", in other words an enforced loan. It appears, however, that the people who had

money

money proposed that the officials should first raise the amount, and they would then say what they would do. It was also suggested to levy a tax upon rice, but this the people would never admit. With salt taxed to its utmost value, taxed so heavily as to make it a luxury the objection of the people to a tax upon rice is not a surprise. Mr Mingate reports that the feeling of the people towards foreigners is what might be called courteous apathy, and as to war with France ignorance and indifference.

Nankow is reported as peaceful. 6/407

Mr Goldsborough sends an interesting despatch from Amoy. 7/407.

The

The relations between foreigners and chinese are satisfactory. We notes, however, in the form of a proclamation from the sub-prefect at Amoy, threats against the dynasty, on the part of some pretender to the throne. The tone of the proclamation may indicate to the Department, a spirit of unnecessary alarm. But when we remember, the trifling causes which germinated in the Taiping Rebellion, keeping China in sedition and turmoil for years, causing the devastation of provinces, and the loss of millions of lives, the effect of which is still felt, it is easy to understand the anxiety of the Government at the

appearance

appearance of the slightest pretension
to overthrow the dynasty. Rumours
as to adventures of the same
character came from Hankow
last summer, and I have had
occasion to note them in Setting.

I have dwelt upon Canton
affairs so fully in former despatches, 8/407.
that I need do no more than refer
to the despatch of Mr. Seymour.
But exceptional circumstances
exist in Canton. The people have
the aggressive and restless spirit,
which we are so apt to find in
southern latitudes, haughty,
impetuous, brave. Although the
Cantonese, because of their long
intercourse with foreigners going
back

back to the early days of the East India Company, and because of the many thousands who having lived in the United States and the Colonies of Great Britain are now at home again and their consequent familiarity with western ways, would be supposed to have a kindly feeling towards foreigners, the reverse is the truth. There is more trouble in Canton, and we have more anxiety as to the public peace in the Cantonese provinces than in any part of China. Other provinces are torpid, and seeing little of the foreigner, care less about him. Their feeling is that of contempt and curiosity,

not

not enmity. Canton is near to the seat of war in Tonquin, and suffers from this proximity.

While therefore, we must accept the fact that China is in a seething, troubled condition, I cannot note any phenomena that would justify alarm as to the safety of foreigners. And although I have been asked by American citizens in the interior whether it was prudent for them to leave their work and come to the seaports where they would have the protection of our ships, I have seen no reason to give such advice. In conversation with my colleagues, I have heard no feeling of apprehension. While

one

one part of the empire may be peaceful, there may be turmoil in another. Nor are the people homogeneous. Thus a northern Chinaman may dislike a foreigner, but he hates a Cantonese. There are deep wide fissures in China. The dialects are so peculiar, that natives of one province cannot understand the inhabitants of another. The Divine interdict which led to the confusion of tongues has fallen upon China, and a Cantonese, in the eyes of a Pekingese is as much an alien as an Algerine or a Turk. Out of this comes an absence of national public spirit. The sentiment

which

which during our own war, was known as "loyalty". These local animosities arising out of the want of intercourse and free communication between the provinces, may be regarded as the principal reason why a great and densely populated empire, should be so easily governed by an alien race, vastly inferior in numbers.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Enclosures.

Mit all the Enclosures—

1. Mr. Stevens to Mr. Young.
   No. 42. March. 8th, 1884.
2. Mr. Berghetz, to Mr. Thesiger.
   No. 150. Dec. 29th, 1883.
3. Mr. Bandinel to Mr. Young.—
   No. 106. Janj. 11th, 1884.
4. Mr. Young to Mr. Pilcher,
   No 50. Febj, 13th, 1884.
   Mr. Pilcher to Mr. Young.
   No. 73. Febj. 18th, 1884.
5. Mr. Wingate to Mr. Young.—
   No. 73. Jan. 7th, 1884.
6. Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.
   No. 85. Dec. 10th, 1883.
7. Mr. Goldsbrough to Mr. Young.
   No. 156. Dec. 22nd, 1883.
   Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.—
8. No. 49. Jan. 2nd, 1884.
   No. 64. Mar. 10th, 1884.

Despatch No. 407.
Enclosure 1.

No. 42.

Mr. Stevens to Mr. Young.

Ningpo, March, 8th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch no. 30, dated Jan. 8th 1884, in which you kindly acknowledges the receipt of my despatch no. 163 of Dec. 14th, addressed to the Consul General in Shanghai and by him forwarded to you. Nothing of importance has occurred within this Consular district in a military point of view since that date. There has been a continuous preparation for war by those in authority. The Taotai Jui Chang has been quite active and apparently extravagant in his expenditures of money in the fitting up of the old and in the building of new forts at the

the mouth of the river Yung or as it is more generally known, the Min-pao River.

I have not been indolent in my attentions to these matters, neither a quiet observer of passing events, but as active as circumstances would allow and opportunity offer in obtaining all the information I could, knowing the importance, if war should really be declared between France and China, that the Representatives of a friendly nation, more especially its Ministers be thoroughly posted.

I have procured, after much work and with great care, a chart of the mouth of the river Yung, shewing the position of the ten forts that have been

constructed

constructed for the defence of this port. 1/

I take pleasure in sending you a rough draft thinking it may be of use to you. It will at least give you an idea of what they are doing I do not know that I can do better to further comply with your instructions than to copy a portion of a letter addressed to Captain F. J. Higginson, commanding the U.S. many war "Monocacy" that paid this port a brief visit - arriving here on the evening of 16th Feby, and leaving for Canton via Amoy etc on the morning of the 20th. I wish to say a few words regarding their visit which I shall treat of in a separate despatch.

(Copy from letter to Captain Higginson.)

Captain F. J. Higginson,

U.S.S. "Monocacy"

"Monocacy".

Sir,

In addition to what I said to you in our private conversation last evening regarding the preparations for war by the Chinese Authorities at this Port and within this Consular District, I have the honour to submit for your personal information a few additional points that may be of interest. The information I have obtained from time to time is very meagre, often contradictory and unreliable. The Chinese, I find as a rule, are not averse to exaggeration and misrepresentation. As I have previously stated to you, H. E's the Taot'ai and Tetai have been quite energetic in placing the forts at the mouth of the River Yang at and near Chin hai in the best

possible

possible condition for defensive operations. Their expenditures of money during the last few months have been considerable. They do not seem to lack for funds or limit their expenditures. I think I have been correctly informed that this port is to be the rendezvous of their navy in the event of war, and should the war extend so far north as this port, they seem to regard it as one more easily defended than some others; while the harbours around some of the islands in the Chusan group would afford the enemy a good lodging place, a good rendezvous from which they could commence their aggressive operations against Shanghai or other important ports. They are consequently increasing the number of forts, building stockades, erecting

erecting earthworks, and strengthening their old positions. I am informed that their land forces are being gradually increased within the past week 1,500 troops have been added. These soldiers came from Chinkiang and up the Yangtze, 1,000 of whom went to Tinghai, the provincial city of the Island of Chusan. the balance were distributed around the defenses at the mouth of the river near Chin hae. I have this morning been informed that other preparations are being made for building additional fortifications. The Tetai has been at Chusan three days supervising matters. I believe I told you that the Taot'ai Liu Shen Shu, Governor of the Province, had been here. He arrived at Chin hai on

the

the 7th of Feby, came up to Ningpo on the 10th,
remained overnight, and ret.d to Hangchow.
I hear that he made some severe criticisms
on what had been done, and ordered the
building of additional forts as well as
the extension and strengthening of some
of the old ones. I regret very much that
I cannot inform you about the number
and calibre of the guns that are now in
position in the ten forts, as indicated in
the chart presented to you. I shall
at the earliest date possible obtain
the desired information and forward it
to you, so that you may be fully posted,
and if you deem it of advantage, you
can embody the information thus obtained
in your report to the admiral.

The memorandum of questions

which

which you handed me this morning. I shall answer briefly, as my time is limited.

Question No. 1. Number of missionaries in Kiangsi and interior?

Ans. Kiangsi 14, Interior 14; total 28.-

No. 2. Number and Calibre of guns in each battery at the mouth of the River Yung in and around Chên'hai?-

Ans. already stated above. In addition, I would like to say that when "Ashuelot" was here a year ago I requested Capt. Mullan to send an officer to sketch the positions of the forts then constructed and find out the number and calibre of the guns that each forts contained, and furnish this office with a copy of his report. This he did not do.

No. 3.

No. 3. What are the Torpedo defences and where placed?

Ans. I cannot answer at present, but will do so at the earliest date possible.

No. 4. Are there any arrangements for obstructing the River?

Ans. Yes - but their arrangements are in embryo. They are undecided as to the best method to adopt. I shall advise you personally as well as the Admiral as soon as I know what they have decided upon.

No. 5. - Names of American merchants?

Ans. I am sorry to inform you - officially as I did privately that - Kingston supports but one American merchant. His name is Charles Mc. -

Caslin,

Caslin, trading as Mc. Caslin Co.—
No. 6. Have the Soldiers had any
target practice from the forts?
Ans. They have, but to what extent I
cannot state. I think, however, the
practice has been limited. Their
infantry have for the past year been
practising continuously but with
what results I am not informed.
I have been a casual observer from
time to time, but not wishing to
make myself obtrusive, I have seldom
been to see them. I may state however,
they are improving, as far as I
can judge.

No. 7. Kinds of coals obtainable?
Ans. They are the Formosa and
Sydney coals.

No.

No. 8. Price per ton?

Ans. Formosa coal, the kind supplied to the Steamers costs on an average about $7. per ton. The cost for delivery to the Ship's bunkers is from 10 to 15 Cts per ton. The average price for Sydney coal is $11. per ton.

No. 9. Stock on hand?

Ans. At present the quantity of Formosa coal is only about 100 tons in all the yards. The usual quantity on hand is from 600 to 1000 tons. I have never known them to have so little coal in store. The Chinese gunboats have been moving continually during the past few months, and have helped to consume the usual supply. The quantity of Sydney coal on hand is about

about 150 tons, but the supply will soon be exhausted. I understand that vessels have already been chartered to bring more coal at once.

Since writing the above, I learn that more troops are coming in, and that orders have been given to the fishermen in this district to report to officers selected for the purpose that they may be drilled - also that arms will be given them, but some one on shore has to go on their bond that they will not desert and turn pirates &c.

Since writing the foregoing letter about one thousand men more have been added to those already quartered within stretching distance of Chin hai, making

making the total available strength at and near Winnipeg about fifteen thousand men. With what could be called in at any time necessity requires, thirty thousand men can be easily mustered, such as they are. It is not presumed this large body of men are for ever solely at this point, but they are quartered at this intermedial station ready for transfer whenever necessary.

There has been no change in sentiment of good will towards foreigners observable, since my last of December, 14th, 1883. Some of the soldiers attending the reception of the Governor on the 10th Feb.y were quite insulting and seemed to be anxious

to

to instigate trouble, but happily the two persons thus insulted restrained their resentment. All the authorities here are most friendly and cordial, and are anxious to retain the good will of all.

I shall comply with your request and telegraph the Legation at once if anything of a serious nature occurs. I may also add that the supply of coals for the ships at this port is now entirely exhausted. More is expected soon, however.

I am &c

(Signed) Edwin Stevens.

U. S. Consul.

— Enclosure —

1. A Chart of the mouth of the River Yang with numbers and positions

of forts

Despatch No. 407.
Enclosure 2.

No. 150.

Mr. Bergholz to Mr. Thrasher.

Chinkiang, Dec. 29th, 1883.

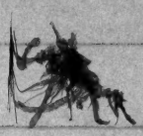
Sir,

As regards the present unsettled condition of affairs in China, everything is quiet at this port and no disturbance is apprehended. The people are quiet and orderly and show no hostile disposition towards foreigners. At the time of the departure of the garrison for the South there were a few collisions between the Soldiers and the native police in the foreign Settlement, but not of a serious nature and only incidental to the movement of a large body of men. On the whole their behaviour has been orderly and no complaint has been made.

I am &c

(Signed) Leo. Bergholz.

Vice Consul.



Despatch No. 407.
Inclosure 3.

No. 106/845.

Mr. Bandinel to Mr. Young.

Newchwang, 11th Jan, 1884.

Sir,

Referring to my despatch No. 105/844, I have the honour to add that the Taotai has recd. urgent instructions to complete the fort at the mouth of the river early in spring. He contemplates recommencing work as soon as the frost begins to break, perhaps about the end of Feb. with this object he has asked permission to retain the 500 troops which were to have left this port for Port Arthur 旅順口.

1000 additional cavalry (also under the command of Tso 左寶貴 have been moved from Moukden and stationed

500

300 at Kuichuang 牛莊 300 at Pu la pu 普拉堡 near South Kuichow. It was at first intended to station these latter at Point Arthur but apprehensions were entertained of brawls with the 6,000 troops already there under Sung Ching Tao, who is a Mahommedan left Tien Chuang Tai 田莊台 on the 5th instant on a tour of inspection. His troops are said to be well disciplined, strong, and free from Opium Smoking. Sung Ching's and Chiao's troops are well disciplined, but are said to be physically inferior and to include many Opium smokers. The Taotai's force consists of raw countrymen who have very little idea of holding

or

or using their fire arms and of keeping step etc, and who do not understand more than one half of the mixture of Chinese and Manchu, - phrases with which their half trained instructors attempt to drill them.

The Tartar General has been instructed to raise 2,000 additional troops in Moukden but has issued no proclamation as his funds are insufficient to defray their expenses. He has been authorized to retain for military purposes, all the Lekin raised in the province (a portion of which goes under ordinary circumstances to Peking) also the wood duty of the district of Feng Huang Cheng 鳳凰城 and 40 % of

of the duty collected by the native customs in the district of Shan'hai Kuan 山海關 in the centre of which this port is situated. With a view to increasing the net revenues derived from this last source, the Taout'ai is sending his deputies to the more important customs stations on the coast and elsewhere - dismissing the inferior officers who were formerly in charge and are supposed to have appropriated too large a per centage of the receipts.

The good feeling of Chinese towards foreigners at this port is, I think, unabated; but there seems to be an uneasy feeling in Moukden where the French missionaries have been long established and where more recently two married protestant

protestant (Scotch) missionaries and an unmarried lady have been stationed. It is from the last named, now on a visit to this port, that I gather this - I do not know if she is unduly nervous.

A Japanese will shortly leave this on a trip northwards and will be able to give me pretty correct ideas of the feeling towards foreigners in the interior.

I am &c

(Signed) J. J. Fred^k. Bandinel.

Vice Consul.

Despatch No. 407.

No. 50. Enclosure 4.

Mr. Young to Mr. Pilcher.

Feb. 13th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your private letter, dated yesterday, in which you say that several recruiting stations have been opened in Trentsin.

This is a subject in which I feel a deep interest, as concerning peace or war.

I hope it will be in your power to send the Legation further information. Are the recruits intended for local or general service? Are they selected with regard to special branches of military service - Cavalry - artillery - or infantry? - What Standard of age and

efficiency

efficiency is enforced by the recruiting officers? What is the time, and what are the conditions of service? How many soldiers is it proposed to enlist?

In fact the whole subject is at this time so full of interest, that any information, no matter how trivial it may appear will have value.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Despatch No. 407.
Enclosure 4.

No. 73.

Mr. Pilcher to Mr. Young.

Tientsin, February, 19th., 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 50 referring to a private letter written by me and dated the 11th. inst. in which I mentioned the report that several recruiting Stations had been opened in Tientsin and inquiring for further particulars.

I gave the information at the time in the shape in which it came to me but a more thorough investigation of the subject obliges me to say that, though not absolutely without foundation, the report was premature.

I find that, at the soup Kitchens opened in Tientsin by the Government for the relief of the poor, there have been enrolled between four and five thousand males - old and young - to whom a daily

daily allowance of food is given. Not long ago, it is said, orders were issued commanding that the most favoured of the men on this list be selected and enlisted for service in the army. Such was the origin of the report which, by the time it came to my ears, had assumed the definite form in which I wrote to you.

There are at present - Eight fortified camps lying to the North of the City where are quartered four thousand eight hundred troops, or six hundred in each camp. Of this number, one half are Cavalry and the remainder infantry. They constitute a part of the Standing army under the - direction of the Viceroy Li. An additional force of three thousand men is, I am informed on the best authority, being raised by a - Chinese General named Tsao Kê-chung. He is a native of this vicinity of very humble - origin who attained distinction in Kansuh some years ago in the wars against the Mahommedans and, received marks of the Imperial approbation in the form of -

promotion

promotion and the gift of a Yellow Jacket - a month or two ago he was called from retirement to raise the levies above referred to - After remaining a short time in Tientsin, he opened recruiting Stations in the vicinity of Liang Hsiang Hsien, Cho chow, and Ku an Hsien, south and west of Peking on the great road to Pao-ting foo - Not having filled the quota of men from that region he has removed his head quarters to the city of Chêng-ting-Fu - one hundred miles southwest of Pao-ting-Fu. It is expected that his rolls will be full in a few days and that he will return to Tientsin the early part of next month where he will enlist a troop for his body guard and complete the minor details of his work. Half of the raw recruits brought in by him are to be exchanged for an equal number of drilled troops from the camps here and the small army thus formed will be sent to Chefoo and Ting chow Fu in Shantung in accordance with a scheme organized for the defence of the Entire sea-board.

Rumours

Rumours are current among the people that large bodies of troops are to be sent from the North both to Canton and to Tonquin but these reports are not confirmed by any reliable information that I have been able to command.

I am assured that the term of service is not specified at the time of Enlistment but is determined by the pleasure of the Government. No inducement in the shape of "Bounty" is offered. The pay of a common soldier is three taels and six mace (Tls $3\frac{60}{100}$) per month for infantry and seven taels and two mace (Tls $7\frac{20}{100}$) for cavalry - The Extra amount being for the Keeping of the horse. The Soldiers furnish their own food and clothing except in cases where the Govern$^t$ furnishes a single military jacket. They are armed with foreign muskets and drilled according to Western tactics. The ages of the new recruits range from eighteen to thirty years as a rule and their acceptability is determined by a few days of trial and not by a previous examination

medical

medical Examination.

I will endeavour to watch the progress of Events as they transpire in this vicinity and will write you again.-

Meanwhile I beg to remain,

Sir,

Your Obt

(Signed) L. W. Belcher.

U.S. Vice Consul.

Mr. Richer to Mr. Youngs.

March. 24th., 1884.

My dear Mr. Youngs,

The China Merchants S. S. "Yehsin" left this morning with 800 soldiers for Port Arthur - I understand she carries also 125 cases Winchester rifles and 120 cases Ammunition (Explosive Cartridges) also 10 small (50 lbs") torpedoes and 2 large torpedoes.

Several thousand more soldiers are here awaiting transportation.

A fleet of 12 Chinese Gunboats are anchored at Taku outside of the Bar.

It is said that Tseeyoy Li has asked from the Captain of the Russian Gunboats the loan of twenty rifles for the purpose of comparing them with

the

the Winchester rifles now in use in the Chinese army. It looks as if Russia was likely to enter the list of competition for the trade in munitions of war.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Lt. Belcher.

Despatch No. 1107.
Enclosure 5.

No. 73.

Mr. Wingate to Mr. Young.

Jan. 7th, 1884.

Sir,

I have constantly in mind my duty to report any information I may be able to obtain which bears upon the present relations of China and France, or which arising from these complications may in any way affect foreigners.

I need not state how difficult it is to get any exact information, and how unreliable are most of the flying rumours which may come to our ears.

It is impossible to learn the real sentiments of the officials, and among the people there is nothing which corresponds to our ideas of public opinion.

The one thing which perhaps more than anything else has attracted the

attention

attention of those foreigners who at all observe movements among the Chinese, has been the multiplication of the barrier gates which are usual in Chinese towns.

I think that formerly there were few or none on the south side of the river, and comparatively few in the suburb on the other side. Now a great many gates have been put across the streets in our immediate vicinity, new ones have been built on the north side, old ones repaired in the city, and I am told some new ones built. These gates are a usual method of preventing thieving and restraining the course of mobs. A few built at any time would not attract attention, but we must look upon the present action as having some connection with the possibility of some unusual movement. Whether the design is to restrain any mob which might have

in

in mind an attack on foreigners, or merely to afford means of quelling any outbreak or unusual thieving, it is impossible to say. The gates are not now closed. Should they be, some action might be necessary to guard against foreigners being restricted in their movements.

Regarding the raising of troops, I can only learn with certainty, that Tang Taotai has brought 1,000 men from Swatow, and that 3,000 men are expected from Kgan hwui. I cannot learn that more than 300 militia have been enrolled here. — These have been all found in a few wards of the Kantai Suburb; they are at present paid, 1,000.- cash per month; they are expected to — practice military drill a little, and to be ready to go into the forts when called upon.

I was informed on the 5th instant, by one connected with the

the Yamens, that Yeng yu lin wrote up to the Viceroy to raise troops. - The Viceroy replied that he had no money. The Viceroy then advised the officials and people to make a - patriotic contribution - the officials to give 1,000,000 Tls and the people 1,000,000 Tls. The heads of the gentry were advised of this; whereupon they said, you officials first go ahead and raise your million, and then we will tell you what we will do. Nothing has been done.

Lately it was reported that an order came for the Viceroy to levy a tax on rice. The Viceroy replied that it could not be done: - the people would not submit to it. I asked the man, before referred to as connected with the Yamêno, - regarding the truth of this, and, - without replying to my question, he went on to say that an official - had said to the Viceroy that before going

going to war with France it would be best to get in a supply of rice, before the river was closed; that there was only about three months supply of food in the city at any time. Upon this representation, he said, certain merchants had undertaken to get in, I think, a year's supply.—

The people recognize the fact that much of their rice comes in by sea; and the possibility of a famine in case of war is probably a most potent argument for peace, both with people and officials here.

An English missionary lately reported to me that abusive epithets as he passed through the streets of the city, were more frequent than they have been for some time.—

Some native Christians in the city, connected with one of the American missions, lately informed a Missionary that their heathen friends had said that in case of war their chapel

would

would be torn down; that the people said the Canonese have destroyed a good chapel and why should not the Foochow people pull down this old one.

American Missionaries lately returned from the country report that there is no excitement there, the people apparently know nothing regarding the French question.

To shew the ignorance of the country people regarding public affairs, I report the following.

A missionary was some thirty or forty miles up the river last week, where the telegraph poles are being put up. He said that the country people said this was the way foreigners had of marking boundaries, and that one side of this line was China and the other Russia; and there was no apparent interest in this fact that Russia was

to

to own the land by their side.

I think the officials are anxious that there should be no disturbance and I trust there will be none.

We are all, however, well satisfied that an English gunboat is up at the Settlement. –

I have &c.

(Signed) J. G. A. Wingate

A. S. Consul.

Despatch No. 407.
Inclosure 6.

No. 85

Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.

Dec. 10th, 1883.

Sir,

Touching rumoured disturbances at the outports I am happy to say all is peaceful at Namkow, but the populace are evidently disturbed. The officials have forbidden the introduction of Kerosene into Wu chang, save for use by foreign missionaries, and by means of a Circular Race, to prevent incendiary acts.—

I am &c.

(Signed) Isaac T. Shepard

Encl.

Despatch No. 307.
Enclosure 7.

No. 156.

Mr. Goldsborough to Mr. Young.

December, 22nd, 1868.

Sir,

I have the honour in obedience to a despatch from the General Expressing your wishes to inform you of the feeling existing at this port among Chinese with reference to foreigners, the dynasty &c.

It affords me much pleasure to report that the relations here existing between Chinese and foreigners are entirely satisfactory. I send you, however, a proclamation issued recently by the Sub-Prefect here with reference to a supposed premeditated revolt at Chang Chiu, which will fully explain.

I have &c

(Signed) H. Elwell Goldsborough.

Enclosure

Photograph of a proclamation issued by the Subprefect of Amoy, Embodying the substance of a premeditated revolt at Chang Chiu by certain lawless Chinese subjects. —

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Translation.

I, Kuang, Acting Sub Prefect defending the sea coasts of Amoy, in the Prefecture of Chuan Chiu, with a title of Li Chii, hereby issue this proclamation to effect the arrest of the undermentioned individuals

Having been notified by H. E. Lein, Taotai for Amoy &c — that he had rec'd a communication from H. E. Lien, Taotai for Chang Chiu &c, of the following tenor:

tenor :-

"Whereas information was obtained
"through inquiries that there exists in the
"locality of Lan Lüh, within the jurisdiction
"of Han Chung District, a vagabond named
"Chin Kwei Yih, who wildly boasted himself
"as possessing the title of "Ta Feng Kwoh Wang"-
"the King of Great Feng Nation, styled -
"himself as "Kwa Jin" - I, the King, -
"circulated wild rumours, distributed
"slips of paper, thus endeavoured to bribe
"and deceive ignorant people, besides
"frequented the localities along the Lung
"Ki and Tsein Tao districts, where he
"hid himself in order to agitate and -
"incite minds of the populace, thereby,
"frightened them and created suspicious
"without tranquility.

"Besides

"Besides having posted notices of rewards
"to capture one who can turn informer, and
"directed the Prefect and the District Magistrate
"to co-operate with the military forces and
"make careful detection of his whereabouts so
"as to strictly have him arrested if found
"within their jurisdictions, he (the Taotai of
"Chang Chin)" addressed the Taotai of Amoy, "
"to direct the Sub Prefect" (myself) "to -
"make strict inquiries in disguise to effect
"his arrest and delivery for punishment.

Having also rec'd a communica-
tion addressed by Kih, the Prefect of Chang
Chin, stating as follows; -

"Lately, as a band of villains, Chung
Yuen tse, who has been arrested, states
that there was in league, a pretended
adviser named Lin King Hsien, alias

Lin

"Lui King dien, who is a native of Amoy, it
"is probable that the said vagabond Chin
"Kwei Pih may conceal himself there. They
"(the said Chung Yuen tsa)" further stated
"that there was a pretended Generalissimo,
"a native of Chung Tai District. Notices of
"reward have at once been posted that —
"whereever any person or persons, whether
"military people, inhabitants, soldiers
"or policemen, who can arrest the above
"named vagabond Chin Kwei Pih, shall
"be awarded the sum of one thousand dollars.
"And, at the same time, proclamations have
"been issued that wherever any person or
"persons, whether military people or
"inhabitants, who had through ignorance
"been deceived by, or had received slips of
"paper from him, are permitted to burn

"or

"or destroy such Slips, and are exempted from
"Charges or punishment; but that, wherever
"any person or persons who still daringly
"join him to make such wild rumours,
"shall be arrested and punished as the
"said vagabonds; and that whenever such
"vagabonds rely on their power to defend
"themselves from arrest, any person or
"persons are allowed to fight with,
"and Kill them, and are Exempted from
"Charges.

"He" (the said Depect) "requested (me)
"that policemen be directed to make enquiries
"and arrest, and to exert their means to
"have them (the said vagabonds) arrested
"and delivered for trial and punishment."

I having also rec'd a despatch from
the Lung Ki District Magistrate, with
reference

reference to the same subject, I have at once directed my policemen to make strict arrest, and at the same time communicated the matter to the local Commodore, requesting him to depute his soldiers to co-operate with my policemen in order to make confidential search of the whereabouts of the said vagabonds.

Shortly after, I rec'd communications from the Prefect of Chuan Chin and the District Magistrate of Tung an respectg repeating said request.

Lately, the District Magistrate of Lung Ki addressed me a despatch, stating that a certain prisoner Chuang Lien Fah had given the information of the ages, appearances and birth

places

places of the said Chin Kiwei Tih see, and requesting that my policemen be directed to co-operate with his, in order to make arrest.

Besides repeatedly urging on my policemen to make strict and confidential inquiries and arrest of the said vagabonds, I deem it unnecessary to issue notice to effect their arrest, and hereby issue this to notify all persons in Amoy, men of all classes - soldiers and common people, that if any person or persons can have the persons of the several undermentioned vagabonds arrested and brought to my office, or if any person or persons who are quite sure of the places where the said vagabonds - conceal themselves, give such credible

information

information to the local authorities, as to enable them to have the said vagabonds arrested, I; the Sub Prefect, shall at once report the matter to the Prefect of Chang Chiu for bestowing the aforesaid reward on them in order to esteem their merits.

As this is a matter instructed by my superior Authorities to arrest most important criminals, and a very serious case in view of the above circumstances, should any person or persons dare to conceal said criminals, or to keep the information disclosed, they would be at the development of the matter, strictly arrested and punished as the party who conceal and protect rebels.

Let.

Let every one tremble and obey. Dont transgress. A special proclamation.

Description of the accused - their ages, appearances, birth places etc are as follows; —

Chin Kwei Yeh, alias Chung Sze Tao, alias Chung Tao Ching; 32 years of age, not very tall nor short in person - face lean; temples broad; cheeks, prominent Chin, sharp; forehead, projecting; — beardless; slight moustache; queue, curled up; eyebrows, level; slight eyebrows; small eyes; small ears; rather big mouth; upper lip, turned up; on the right side of the upper lip and in the moustache, there is a

small

small black mole, but not very plain, teeth, smooth and full, fingers, short and small; wrinkles on the knuckles of fingers confused; wrinkles on the knuckles of the right hand fingers, something like two cross and one straight, a native of Kau Tsai Shea, in the Hwo Ki village of Kau Chuey District

Lui King Kuin, alias Lui King Luen, about 40 more years old; tall in person; light face; beardless; a native of Amoy.

Lui Kui, between 40 and 50 years of age; a native of Shek Ki shea, in Lui Tsin Kuang of Chang Tai District

Dated. 13th Dec., 1883)

Proclamation to be posted in the locality of Kulangsu.

Despatch No. 417.
Enclosure 8.

No. 49.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

January, 2nd, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that everything seems to be exceedingly quiet in Canton.

Present indications encourage the belief that the authorities are in good control of the people; and that the recent proclamations of high officials are respected in the observance of injunctions to maintain order and tranquility.

The recent capture of Sontai by the French has not caused any perceptible excitement.

It is impossible to form well founded opinions as to the probable duration of the present condition of affairs; as, between the sensational rumours of the Hongkong newspapers (Chinese and English) and the mischief-

making

making and anti-foreign Chinese in Canton, the wildest and most unaccountable outbursts of excitement so suddenly and frequently occur, as to necessitate watchfulness and vigilance in guarding against surprises.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour.

No. 64.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

March, 10th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, in regard to the condition of affairs in Southern China, that everything has been very quiet in this City, and surroundings for a few weeks past, until the past week; which has been unusually prolific of exciting rumours, of the kind which seems to be necessary for the entertainment of the natives, as a relief for monotony.

Simultaneously there came reports of disturbances at Hwai Chow; or Wai Chow, about 110 miles East of Canton; and at Ying Tak, near the Coast towards the Island of Hainan - both

in

in Quang tung. A week has passed without getting any very definite details as to the origin or Extent of the difficulties; Except that several military Mandarins, and between one and two hundred Chinese soldiers, were Killed by the citizens; who had rebelled, En masse, against some acts or Exactions that were deemed oppression; and that the popular uprising against official oppression had assumed such proportions and magnitude, as to cause the Provincial Authorities to promptly send several thousands of soldiers, in boats, towed by half a dozen Steam tugs and gun boats, to the scene of Strife. From Sing Pak very little has been heard - the chief trouble being at Hwai Jhow.

About

About the middle of the last week a small building, occupied as a shop, in the north side of the river, was burned, in the night, at Canton; and the succeeding two days were filled with the wildest rumours in Hong Kong, and in the opposite village and community of Kowloong in Kwang tung; to the effect that Canton was in flames, on both sides of the river; and that this City was fast being reduced to ashes. Solicitude and anxiety were great in Hong Kong. Numerous telegrams prepared for enquiry in Hong Kong were refused, owing to some derangement of the wires; which intensified the excitement, and strengthened the reports of disaster.

In the meantime, the Chinese Official in charge of Kowloong, opposite Hong Kong,

upon

upon hearing of affairs at Hoai Chow, & became distrustful of the natives in that part of the Province; and communicated his fears, or solicitude, to the British Authorities in Hong Kong; where Extra precautions were consequently observed & taken, with Extra police forces, and military guards, at the Banks, and & Public buildings.

While these rumours and reports were passing to and fro among the natives of Canton, City and province, & vicinity, an idea was prevalent, that, according to various public announcements and predictions of the journals, and their war correspondents, the contest was going on between the French forces and Chinese at Bachninh, and some had it, that at the

the first assault, the French had been repulsed.

Very few foreigners who were not circulating among Chinese people, or who had no "feelers" out to ascertain what was in the wind, could appreciate the intensity or prevalence of the excitement. Affixed paper marked A A/ indicates the feeling that prevailed.

However, so far as matters were visible to the naked eye, Canton was in an amiable mood, and, in moving around and through the City, I thought everything was perfectly tranquil and serene.

Southern China is honeycombed with disloyal, turbulent, and mischievous elements; which, if organized under the control of any leader of commanding influence

influence, who could be trusted, would be too formidable to be easily or speedily subjugated by the Authorities. Still, there does not seem to be immediate danger of anything more serious than occasional disturbances; which, if promptly attended to, will pass as local irritations.

Proclamations were posted in Canton on 7th inst. calling for further enrollment & Enlistment of soldiers.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour

Consul.

A

Mr Hargreaves to Mr Seymour.

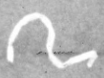
Recd March, 7th, 1884.

My dear Mr Seymour,

Can you give me any definite information respecting the rising at Wei Hsien. The most absurd reports are afloat. It is also rumoured that the French have sustained a defeat at Bachmink. Have you heard anything? Shall be glad of any information you can give me. I am glad to hear that the claim for the Shekung affair is paid. What about Shameen.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) G. Hargreaves.



Note among answers.

Ack by Mr + Ltr

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED

No. 418.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Circular of December 1st on
common zero of longitude.

Synopsis.

Has invited Chinese
Government to participate.
Their acceptance doubtful.

V

No. 408.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:-

In response to your circular instruction, dated December 1st, 1883., in which I was directed to tender an invitation to the Government of China to be represented by one or more delegates in an International Conference to be held in Washington on the first day of October 1884. for the purpose of discussing

discussing and, if possible, fixing upon a meridian proper to be employed as a common Zero of longitude and standard of time-reckoning throughout the globe, I have the honor to remark that this invitation has been extended to the Foreign Office without any appreciable success.

The Ministers evidently fail to appreciate the importance of the questions involved or the value of the agreement proposed. This is, indeed, to be expected since such expressions as "common

Zero

"zero of longitude," and
"standard of time reckoning"
are not to be found in the
Chinese language and the
branches of science to which
they refer are totally "
unknown to both officials
and people.

The Legation, however,
may be able to induce this
Government to instruct its
Minister at Washington to
request of the appropriate
authorities of our Government
the detail of suitable officers
in our own service as the
representatives of China in
this Conference. An effort
to this end will be made
and

and the Department will be duly informed of the result.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED

ack'd & no file

to Boards

No. 409. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Death of H.R.H. Prince Leopold

Synopsis.

Covers copies of correspondence with British Ministers.

No. 409. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State,

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for your information the correspondence which passed between Sir Harry S. Parkes and this Legation in reference to the death of H. R. H. Prince Leopold. The flag of the Legation will be kept at half mast for three days.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

John Russell Young

Enclosures.

1/409.

2/409.

## Enclosures.

1. Sir Harry Parkes to Mr. Young.
35/1884. March 30th U. 1884.

2. Mr. Young in response.
27/1884. March 30th U. 1884.

Despatch No. 419.

Enclosure 1.

Sir Harry Parkes to Mr Young.

27/1884. March 30. 1884.

Monsieur le Ministre et cher collègue,

I deeply regret to inform you that I have received a telegram announcing the death on the 28th inst of H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany.

In consequence of this melancholy event the flag of this Legation will be hoisted at half mast tomorrow and on the two following days.

I beg you to accept the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

(sgd) Harry Parkes

Despatch No. 409.
Disclosure 2.

Mr Young to Sir Harry Parkes.
27/1884 March 30. 1884

Monsieur le Ministre et cher collègue,

I hasten to entrust to Y.Ex. the very deep regret with which this Legation has learned of the death of the illustrious and gifted prince, the Duke of Albany. As a tribute to his memory the flag of this Legation will be at half-mast tomorrow and the two following days.

In conveying this expression of my sympathy, I renew to you, sir and dear colleague the assurances of

my

my most distinguished
consideration
(1892) Jno Russell Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Dwards
&
Dr Kuechhofer

Mr Kuechhofer

No. 410. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Legation rent account. 1st Qur

Synopsis.

Forwards a statement of this account for the quarter ending this day.

JM

No. 410. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of the rent account of this Legation for the quarter ending this day. 1/410.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[signature]

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Legation rent account for quarter ending March 31st, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards
&
Mr Kirkhouse

No. 411. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Incidental expense account. 1st Qur 1884

Synopsis.

Forwards a statement of this account for the quarter ending with date.

GPM

No. 411. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to forward herewith a statement of the incidental expense account of this Legation for the quarter ending this day. 1/411.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[signature]

Enclosure.

# Enclosure.

1. Legation incidental expense account for quarter ending March 31st, 1884.

Mr. Hyde

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 412.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, March 31st, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State

Subject.

Leave of absence to Mr. Holcombe.

Synopsis.

Telegram upon this subject has been received.

No. 412.

Legation of the United States
Peking, March 31st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your telegram undated granting leave of absence to Hon. Secretary Holcombe.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

[signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1884

Mr Edwards

Mr Adee's memo

No. 413. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 14th, 1884.

Rec'd June 13

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinanfu case. Mr. Holcombe's report.

Synopsis.

Covers detailed report of Mr. Holcombe's action in this case. Asks approval of the Department.

No. 413. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to confirm my cable despatch, dated February 11th, as follows:—

"Holcombe returned
"having satisfactorily
"settled Chinanfu case."

In my despatch number 285, dated November 14th, I informed the Department that I had resolved to send Mr. Holcombe to Chinanfu, to endeavor to arrange a long standing

long standing grievance
between the American
missionaries residing there
and the Chinese Authorities.
I did this with some
reluctance because I do
not wish to encourage a
disposition on the part of the
Yamen to throw the responsibility
of settling important questions
upon the Provincial Officials.
At the same time the
American citizens in
Chinanfu had been a long
time deprived of their rights.
All recourse to the Yamen
had been exhausted, and
I saw no better way to secure
a practical result than to
deal

deal directly with the Governor of the Province.

This decision, I am glad to know, met with your approval (in ~~your~~ omit despatch number 202. dated January 14th.)

Mr. Holcombe left Peking on the morning of December 25th, 1883., and returned February 9th, 1884. I wrote the Viceroy Li Hung Chang regarding his mission, expressing the hope that all courtesy would be shown him as the representative of this Legation. In my despatch number 333. dated January 26th, I had

had the pleasure of
saying to the Department
that every pains had been
taken by the Authorities to
meet my wishes in this
respect and to do honor
to Mr. Holcombe. In his
1/413. report, Mr. Holcombe
dwells with more detail
upon this gratifying
incident.

I make a special
reference to this because,
at a time when there is
much anxiety in China
as to the status of foreigners,
it is a gratification to know
that a friendly disposition
exists towards Americans.

The

The details of Mr. Holcombe's settlement will appear in the enclosures. The agreement as it now stands is satisfactory to the gentlemen directly concerned and meets with my " approval. I trust that it will satisfy the Department.

In the meantime I commend to your " recognition the judgment and tact shown by Mr. Holcombe in carrying out the orders of the Legation and bringing to an " honorable result a question which has been for a long time a source of anxiety.

I

2/1113. I have informed H.I.H. Prince Kung that the Legation regards the "Chinanfu case" as satisfactorily disposed of, and requested him to thank the Governor of Shantung for his most courteous treatment of Mr. Holcombe.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Holcombe to Mr. Young February 12th, 1884.

omit 2. Mr. Young to Prince Kung. 9/1884 February 16th, 1884.

Despatch No. 413.
Enclosure 1.

Mr. Holcombe to Mr. Young.

February, 12th, 1884.

Sir,

In reference to your instruction number 104/1883, of December, 20th, 1883, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, and in which I was requested to proceed to Chinanfoo in order to effect a settlement of a case of long standing in that city, I have the honour to inform you that I left Peking upon Dec. 25th, and, after a necessary delay of a few days at Tientsin in order to transact certain business with H. E. Li Hung Chang, reached Chinanfu upon the afternoon of January 12th. The three following days were necessarily occupied with the interchange of preliminary visits of courtesy, and my first business interview with H. E. the Governor took place by appointment Wednesday, Jan. 16th, after

which

which I had interviews with him each day for an entire week. In all these discussions H. E. manifested a most friendly spirit and an exceeding anxiety to dispose of the business in hand to my satisfaction (not coupled with a considerable degree of fear lest he should be urged to take some action which would arouse against him the enmity of the "Shun Shih" an organization of the educated class and gentry of the province). We discussed the whole business in hand from its origin in the mob of July, 12th, 1881 down to the present, with the utmost candour and thoroughness and yet with mutual good nature. Upon my part I assured H. E. at our first interview, that my mission to Chinanfu had but one object which was to dispose of the case in question in a spirit of the utmost conciliation and forbearance; that my desire was, not to obstruct but to facilitate a

Settlement

settlement; and that I should demand nothing unreasonable or beyond his power to grant. He was also plainly assured that I should not ask the restitution to the missionaries of the property originally purchased by them, as I did not believe that such a demand, even if willingly complied with, would, in view of popular feeling, really conserve the interests at stake. H. E. appeared greatly relieved by this assurance. But it was also added that, this concession being made on our part freely to the sentiments of the Chinese, we ought to expect, and would indeed insist that our demands in all other particulars should be fully and promptly met, and we thus be shewn that our forbearance in waiving our right to the original premises, was appreciated.

H. E. replies that his greatest anxiety had been lest I should insist upon the rendition of the original property

property, which could not have been acceded to by him except at the risk of another popular uprising. Since however I had spoken in so conciliatory a manner upon that point he had no hesitation in assuring me that all other demands would be met without hesitation or reserve.

N. E. had secured two different premises of which he offered the choice as in exchange for the original purchase, and, after the interview of Jan. 17th, I made a careful inspection of each in person. The missionaries also examined them at my request.

As a result of our conferences I submitted to N. E. at our interview of Jan. 18th, a memorandum (omit copy of which is Enclosed, and in which I proposed, under certain conditions, to accept on behalf of the missionaries one of the premises offered.

2/c

So

To this N. E. submitted a counter memorandum upon the 19th. An examination of this rejoinder will shew you at once that the Governor substantially accepted all my conditions with one exception. He insisted that the missionaries should pay the legal tax on the deed for the new premises, as they should have done (but had not) upon the premises first bought. As the amount involved was only some $110.- Mexican dollars, I yielded this point without a question. 3/c

In order to bring the business into a formal shape, response was made to the Governor's counter memorandum, in the shape of an official despatch, copy of which you will find herewith. In it the points of agreement were summarized, and N. E. was requested to state whether he accepted them, and, 4/c

if

if so, to name an early day for the exchange of the necessary papers. – His response was made upon the 20th January. He accepted the terms in toto and named the 22nd as the day for concluding the business.

Upon that date I rec'd from the Governor an official title deed, made out in the names of the missionaries, for the new premises together with a bank order for Taels 3,000. – the amount agreed upon to be paid as the diffce in the value of the two properties. – And, I delivered to H. E. the title deeds of the premises first purchased and Taels 83 10/100 the amount of tax on the transfer of the property. Immediately after this interview the District Magistrate went in person and formally delivered the new premises to Messrs. Murray and Hunter who, at my request, were in waiting to take possession of them. The interchange, upon the same day,

6

of

of formal notes between H. E. the Governor and myself brought this case to a conclusion. 7/-

Upon my part, Messrs Murray and Hunter were also formally addressed in a note, reciting the points of my agreement with the Chinese Authorities, and enclosing the title deeds to the new property and the bank note for Taels 3,000.- (I beg to ask your attention to their response enclosed herewith) 8/- 9/-

I may add further that these gentlemen were consulted fully and frankly and they assented to the wisdom of the various conclusions reached by me.

Having thus accomplished the object of my mission, I exchanged leave taking calls with H. E. the Governor upon the 23rd January and set out upon my return to this City upon the following day.

There

There are one or two points embodied in this report upon - which a word of explanation may perhaps be necessary.

The question of the cemetary lot does not appear in the earlier correspondence in this case. It has, in fact, never been formally brought to the notice of the Legation. It had - however caused our citizens at - Chinanfoo much trouble and anxiety, and, at their request, it was brought forward in my negotiations with the Governor.

The sum of Taels 3,000.- say $4,300.- paid by the Chinese Authorities was in my opinion a larger amount - than this Legation could with reason have insisted on as representing an actual difference between the value of the premises originally purchased and those accepted in exchange. Indeed after personal inspection of both - properties I had fixed upon the sum

of

of Taels 2,000.- = $ 2,900.- as the proper equivalent. But Messrs. Murray and Hunter urged with some show of reason a difference in the value of the two locations and also the fact that they might with justice claim some considerable sum in compensation for the delay of two and a half years during which they had been deprived of the use of the premises bought. - Moved by these considerations I - insisted in my first memorandum a claim for Taels 3,000.-, but was - prepared to yield somewhat upon it, in case the Chinese Authorities raised serious objection. But to my gratification H.E. the Governor accepted the sum named at once, saying in personal conversation :- "I know "there is no such difference in the "values of the two properties, but you "have come a long distance to settle "this business and shewn yourself "very reasonable and friendly, and,

"further

"further, I have a great regard for the
"Protestant missionaries, I know that
"they are doing a good work, and I am
"quite willing to give them a few
"hundred taels more than strict
"justice would demand."

Since H. E. therefore, yielded this point so promptly and gracefully, I saw no reason for modifying the demand as made at the request of the missionaries.

I should do injustice, as well to my own feelings as to the Authorities of the provinces of Chihli and Shantung, did I close this report without calling special attention to the very marked and unusual courtesies extended to me along the route of my journey by the local authorities and in the city of Chinanfoo by the Governor. As I was on the point of leaving Tientsin H. E. Li Hung Chang sent a Secretary to say to me that he had informed the

Governor

Governor of Shantung of my movements, and had also instructed his subordinates in so much of my route as lay within the province of Chihli to shew me all possible attention. The effects of this act of thoughtful courtesy were at once apparent. The local officials secured in advance for me the best inns at each point where I stopped, whether for the night or for the midday meal, filled them up with rugs, carpets, cushions, and curtains, sent cooks and servants to see that my food was ready for me, and in many instances the Chief magistrate of the district, equivalent to the Mayor of one of our cities, came in person to meet me, to pay his respects and to make sure by his presence that his arrangements for my comfort were properly executed. A military escort of never less than twenty persons, and more frequently numbering fifty or sixty, equally divided between

Cavalry

cavalry and infantry, accompanied me from point to point, being exchanged at each district city from Tientsin to Chinanfoo. A similar escort was furnished upon my return. At a distance of some five miles from Chinanfoo I was met by an aide to the Governor sent to bring me the compliments of H. E. and to say that he had sent his own sedan chair out for me and he begged me to make use of it in entering the city, as it was more comfortable than the "mule litter" in which I was travelling. At the point where the Governor's sedan chair was waiting for me, two regiments of soldiers were paraded and salutes were fired in my honour. An immense concourse of people had assembled here, as it had been known throughout the city for several days that I was coming and the populace seemed to have taken a holiday in order

to

"to see the "foreign Official". Chinese - said that 20,000 people were gathered, but probably 10,000 would be nearer the mark. They were very curious but perfectly quiet and respectful.

On reaching the city I found that the Governor had taken an entire inn for my accommodation, fitted it up thoroughly, in accordance with Chinese ideas of comfort, and had sent his own cook and major domo with a great retinue of attendants of various grades, some thirty persons in all, to wait upon me. These servants remained in attendance during the entire period of my stay in Chinanfoo, and my meals were furnished me constantly from the Governor's Kitchen.

I need hardly say that I would much have preferred to make my journey in a more quiet and unpretentious style

and,

and, as I had a sufficient number of my own servants in company for all my wants that such a retinue was more or less of an embarrassment. I endeavoured, so far as could be with safety to my mission, to avoid so large an escort en-route to Chinanfoo, but it was quite useless to ask the local authorities to excuse me from accepting it. They had their orders from the Governor and knew well that not even my request and protestations against so much display would serve to shield them from any failure to obey his mandate. In a similar manner I endeavoured at Chinanfoo to induce the Governor to withdraw his large retinue of servants from my inn and to allow my own attendants to wait upon me. But N. E., an exceedingly amiable and courteous old gentleman, was evidently

influenced

influenced by two motives, one, to shew me how magnificently courteous a Chinese Official could be when he cared to make the effort, and, second, and probably the more important motive, to shew his own people in a quiet but most effective manner the regard and honour in which he and his Government held the officials of the United States. Hence he had caused me to be treated in all respects as though I were an Imperial Commissioner of His Majesty the Emperor of China. And hence, I found that to press my protestations and excuses beyond a certain point would wound the kindly feelings of the Governor and endanger the success of my mission by arousing in his mind the suspicion that I either did not know how to appreciate such courtesies, or that I objected to the receipt of favours

at

at his hand because I was in an aggressive mood. It seemed best therefore to accept these attentions quietly and in the spirit in which they were offered.

(One immediate result of this courtesy on the part of the Chinese officials was to increase by several hundred dollars the expenses of my journey since I was bound by Chinese etiquette to make a present of a sum of money to every soldier, petty official, and servant who attended upon or escorted me. To have failed in this point would have been, in the eyes of the Chinese, a disgrace to myself and to the Government whose servant I am.)

I have dwelt at length upon this phase of my mission to Chinanfu because it had an important bearing upon the results of that mission, and because, so far as can be learned, it is entirely without precedent.

precedent, no foreign official travelling, whether on business or pleasure, in the interior of China having rec'd such excessive courtesy before. And it is safe to assume as among the most important of its valuable results, that it will effect a radical change in the minds of the people of an entire province as to the feeling of the Chinese Government towards foreign officials. Heretofore those people have believed, with or without reason, that in his secret heart every Chinese Official had a contempt for foreigners of all clapes. But now the populace of one province has been shewn in a practical and striking manner that an officer of the United States is held by the highest authority of the province in equal honour with an Officer of His Majesty the Emperor. The effects of this lesson cannot fail

to

to be lasting and valuable.

Trusting that my action as herein recited will meet with your approval and that of the Department of State.

I have &c.

(Signed) Chester Holcombe.

— Enclosures —

1. Mr. Young to Mr. Holcombe.
   No. 104/1883. December, 20th, 1883.
2. Memorandum by Mr. Holcombe. (Omit rest of enclosures.)
   January 18th, 1884.
3. Memorandum by the Governor.
   January, 19th, 1884.
4. Mr. Holcombe to the Governor. —
   3/1884. January, 19th, 1884.
5. The Governor to Mr. Holcombe.
   4/1884. January, 20th, 1884.
6. Mr. Holcombe to the Governor
   5/1884. January, 22nd, 1884
7. The Governor to Mr. Holcombe. —
   6/1884. January 22nd, 1884

8.

8. Mr. Holcombe to Messrs. Murray, Hunter and Bergen.

January, 22nd, 1884.

9. Messrs. Murray, Hunter and Bergen in response.

January, 23rd, 1884.

No: 104/1883.

Mr: Young to Mr: Holcombe.

December, 20th, 1883.

Sir,

You are well informed of the circumstances under which it has become necessary for me to request you to proceed to Chinanfoo in order to effect a settlement of a case of the destruction of a chapel, the property of certain American missionaries, which occurred there in July, 1881.

It is understood that a compromise is to be effected under which the missionaries interested are to receive other property in lieu of that destroyed. You should therefore be careful in your negotiations with the Chinese Authorities to secure the following points:-

1st. That the property furnished in exchange be so located as to be available for the purposes of a chapel.

2nd. That it be equivalent in value

to

to that destroyed, or failing this, that any deficiency be made good.

3rd. That proper deeds of the premises furnished in exchange be given to the missionaries and

4th. That any prosecution begun by Chinese local officials against Chinese subjects because of their connection with the purchase of the original premises be abandoned.

You will conduct your negotiations with as much speed as may consist with securing a satisfactory issue, and return as promptly as possible to this Legation.

I am &c &c

(Signed) John Russell Young

End per

Memorandum submitted by Mr. Holcombe to H. E. the Governor of Shantung in the "Chapel Case" at Chinanfoo.

1. H. E. the Governor and Mr. Holcombe agree that the latter shall accept, on behalf of the missionaries, the premises offered by the former opposite the Prefects Yamên in Exchange for those originally purchased. But as these premises are far from Equivalent in value to those originally purchased H. E. the Governor consents to pay to the missionaries, through Mr. Holcombe, the sum of Taels 3000 - guang-ping pure silver as an Equivalent to the difference in value. He also agrees to furnish an official deed for the new premises free of any tax or fee, it being understood that future annual tax payments shall be made by the missionaries as required by Chinese law. The title deeds for the original premises and for those

accepted

accepted in Exchange shall be Exchanged between H. E. the Governour and Mr. Holcombe.

II. H. E. the Governour consents to instruct the local officials to render all proper assistance to the missionaries in securing suitable land upon which to construct dwelling houses in the West or South suburbs of Chinanfoo.

III. It is distinctly promised that all legal action begun against any Chinese subjects because of their connection with the purchase of the original premises shall be at once abandoned.

IV. In regard to certain land purchased by Messrs. Murray and Hunter on "Chein for Hill" for a cemetery, H. E. the Governour agrees to instruct the local authorities, either to furnish the missionaries with an official deed for the land, upon which deed it may be endorsed

endorsed that "no foreign two storied
"building or high monument shall be
"erected," or to furnish an equally suitable
and convenient lot in exchange, to be used
exclusively for burial purposes, in which
event the coffin now buried in the first
named plot shall be removed.

V. Mr. Holcombe agrees that, in order to
avoid disturbances in future, he will
instruct the American Missionaries at
Chinanfoo to give due notice as required
by Chinese law, to the local authorities
of the purchase of land or buildings, and
it is agreed that on receiving such
notice said local authorities shall
render all reasonable assistance.

The foregoing points of an
agreement are submitted to N. E.
Governour in a spirit of amity and
mutual concession, and as
providing for an Equitable adjustment
of this case.

(Signed) Chester Holcombe.

Chinanfoo, January, 18th, 1884

# Shimanfu Case.

Further Memorandum submitted to Mr. Holcombe by H. E. the Governor of Shantung.

I. The difference in money asked between the premises originally purchased and those offered in exchange opposite the Prefect's Yamen is largely in excess of the actual difference in the value of the two premises. The actual cost of the premises opposite the Prefect's Yamen was Taels 2770. or Taels 980. less than the price paid by the missionaries for the property bought by them. But Mr. Secretary Holcombe asks for a money balance of Taels 3,000. - which is Taels 2,020 more than the actual difference in original cost. But as Mr. Secretary Holcombe has taken the trouble to come a long distance to -

Shimanfu

Tsungfu upon this business, and is guided by kindly feelings, this sum asked by him shall be paid as a manifestation of our regard for the friendship existing between the two Powers.

The missionaries ought of course to pay the annual taxes upon the property accepted by them as suggested by Mr. Holcombe and as required by Chinese law.

The papers and title deeds shall be exchanged between Mr. Holcombe and the Undersigned as proposed by the former.

But the tax on the transfer of the property not being large ought according to Chinese law to be paid by the missionaries, especially as they ought to have paid a similar tax upon the original property.

II. Mr. Secretary Holcombe asks me to instruct the local authorities to aid the missionaries in securing land

in

in the West or South Suburbs on which to erect dwellings.-

Chinese law does not authorize such action on the part of local officials. If the missionaries in question wish to purchase land and erect dwellings in the interior of China, they should see to it that such purchases are made with the full knowledge and free consent of the Chinese owners. This being the case, - and the deeds being drawn up, the missionaries should notify the local authorities who will make investigation, and if there is no insuperable objection in the way, and everything has been done in conformity with the treaty, legal deeds will be issued to the missionaries who will be fully protected from all molestation in the Enjoyment of their property.

III. Mr. Holcombe requests that all prosecutions begun against Chinese subjects, by reason of their connection with the purchase of the original premises, be abandoned. This case being

being settled, such prosecutions shall certainly be abandoned.-

IV. In the matter of the Cemetery lot purchased by Messrs Murray and Hunter on "Chin Fo Hill". Mr. Holcombe requests that a deed be issued for it, or an equally suitable plot of ground be furnished in exchange, for burial purposes.

The lot in question being the property of the Government, the coffin resting there ought to be removed.- But it having been buried there, and the local authorities having suppressed all popular objections to the matter, and there being a feeling of entire friendship now between the populace and the missionaries upon this point, there would seem to be no occasion for reviving this question.

V. Mr. Secretary Holcombe proposes to instruct the missionaries that in the

the event of purchase of land or buildings by them in future they should notify the local authorities who would render all proper assistance. That the missionaries notify the local authorities is in certainly a most proper proceedure. But these local authorities can only issue legal deeds to the property thus purchased and protect the missionaries in the quiet use and enjoyment of it. To render any other assistance would be a violation of Chinese law. This point needs further discussion. —

Chinanfu, January 19th, 1884.

3/1884.

Mr. Holcombe to H. E. Governour Tien.

Otsinanfu, January, 19th, 1884.-

H. E.:-

In the matter of the Chapel premises purchased in this city by Messrs. Murray and Hunter, I have had numerous personal interviews and conferences with H. E. and have submitted in the form of a memorandum certain propositions as a basis for a settlement, in reply to which I have now had the honour to receive a counter memorandum from H. E. In it I understand H. E. to say that the actual cost of the premises opposite the Prefect's Yamên was Taels 2770 or Taels 980 less than the price of the premises purchased by the Missionaries. In asking for a payment of a money difference of Taels 3,000 between the two properties, H. E. remarks that I am asking for Taels 2,020 more than the real difference in the cost of the two

premises

premises. But you add that, as I have come a long distance in order to settle this case, the sum of Tls. 3,000 claimed for the missionaries by me, shall be paid. You agree with me in the proposition that the missionaries must pay the annual taxes on the property accepted by them as required by Chinese law. You agree to the exchange between Y.E. and myself of the title deeds and other papers appertaining to the two properties, but Y.E. insists that the missionaries must pay the transfer tax not a large sum on receipt of the official deed as provided by Chinese Statute.

Upon the second point in my memorandum, Y.E. remarks that Chinese law does not allow the local officers to assist civilians in the purchase of real estate. If the missionaries purchase property in the interior of China, it should be with the full knowledge and free consent of the owners of such property. When this has been done and the deeds drawn out,

if

if the missionaries notify the local authorities the latter will investigate the business and unless there are serious objections will issue official deeds upon payment of the legal fees, and will protect the missionaries in the quiet possession of their purchase.

Upon the second point in my memorandum, G. E. remarks that Chinese law does not allow the local officers to assist civilians in the purchase of real estate. If the missionaries purchase property in the interior of China it should be with the full knowledge and free consent of the owners of such property. When this has been done and the deeds drawn out, if the missionaries notify the local authorities, the latter will investigate the business and unless there are serious objections will issue official deeds upon payment of the legal fees, and will protect the missionaries in the quiet possession of their purchase.

Upon the third point in my memorandum, G. E. agrees with me that

that upon the settlement of this case, all prosecutions, begun against Chinese subjects because of their connection with the purchase of the original premises, should be at once abandoned.

Upon the fourth point raised in my memorandum Y.E. remarks that, the cemetery lot purchased by Messrs. Murray and Hunter being unquestionably Government property, the coffin buried there ought of course to be removed, but, it having been buried there and all popular disturbance having been suppressed by the local authorities, and since a good feeling now exists between the missionaries and the people on this point, it is unnecessary to raise any further question about it.

Upon the fifth point raised by me, Y.E. observes that my proposition, to instruct the missionaries to notify the local authorities in the event of purchases of land or buildings in future, is a most proper course of action. But Y.E. adds that under Chinese law the local authorities cannot be allowed to "assist"

in

in making such purchases they can only issue official deeds for such purchases, and protect the missionaries in the quiet use and enjoyment of the premises thus secured. - Y.E. adds that this point needs further discussion. -

In this business I beg leave to remark that, as regards the amount of money claimed by me as an equivalent to the difference in the value of the two pieces of property under discussion, while Y.E. considers the amount too large, it does not on the other hand quite meet the views of the missionaries concerned. - My own thought in naming this sum was simply to arrive at an equitable compromise. The course taken by Y.E. in consenting to pay the amount claimed namely Tls. 3000.- quang ping pure silver most fittingly exemplifies Y.E's friendly disposition. In regard to the legal tax upon the transfer of property, as Y.E. says, the amount is not large, and as Y.E. insists that the missionaries ought

to

to pay it, they will be instructed to that effect by me. - But I must request H. E. to inform me as to the exact amount of the tax in question so that the missionaries may be directed to prepare the amount. It can then be paid to you by me whenever we meet to exchange title deeds.

In regard to the phrase employed in my memorandum to the effect that the local authorities should "assist" the missionaries in the purchase of property, I beg to explain that by the word "assist" it was only meant that the missionaries having come to satisfactory terms with the owners of such property, and having notified the local authorities of their intention to become the owners of it, the latter should, in case no insuperable obstacles existed, issue official deeds, and protect the missionaries in their quiet occupancy of it, without disturbance or molestation from lawless persons. H. E. undoubtedly agrees with me that this sort of assistance will conflict with Chinese law at no

point

point.

In regard to the cemetery lot as purchased by Messrs. Murray and Hunter, H.E. is of opinion that no further question need be raised. In reply I beg to point out that while as yet but one coffin has been buried therein, circumstances can hardly fail to arise under which it may be necessary to make other interments there in future. I must therefore express to H.E. my earnest desire that, in such an event, H.E. will agree either to instruct the local authorities to protect the missionaries in the quiet use of the lot in question or to procure for them another equally suitable lot on which to bury their dead. This, as H.E. is aware, is an important point and I trust H.E. will be able to agree to this request.

I have thus written out in detail the points upon which, as I understand them, H.E. and I are agreed as a basis of settlement of this case. If I am not in error in any point, may I beg H.E. to

notify

notify me of your formal acceptance of them, and to name an early moment for the exchange of the necessary papers. Thereafter I will instruct the missionaries not to construct two storied buildings upon the premises thus secured; that, while they may build in foreign style, the prejudices of the people against the erection of two stories buildings should be respected in order to avoid enmity and disturbance.

As public business demands my return to Pekin at the earliest possible moment I beg to receive an early response to this despatch.

I have &c

(Signed) Chester Holcombe.

No. 14/1884.

H. E. Chen to Mr. Holcombe.

Chinanfu, January, 20th, 1884.

Y. E.,

I have had the honour to receive your despatch of the 19th inst. in the matter of the property purchased by Messrs. Murray and Hunter. (Text of despatch here quoted in full (Sd.) C. H.)

In reply I beg to observe that the amount to be paid by me for the difference in value of the two properties, namely Taels 3,000 Kuang Piney pure silver, is prepared.

By Chinese law, the transfer tax, which Y. E. has consented to instruct the missionaries to pay, is 3% of the purchase price of the property to be transferred. As the premises opposite the Prefect's Yamen cost Tls. 2770 the legal transfer tax will therefore amount to Taels 83.10 Treasury weight pure silver, which, as you suggest

suggest may be paid at the time appointed for the transfer of papers.

In case the missionaries purchase property in future and notify the local authorities as required by Chinese law, the latter will make careful investigation and if everything has been done in due form according to treaty, and no insuperable obstacle be found to exist, they will at once issue official title deeds and protect the missionaries in the use of the property upon payment of the legal fees.

In regard to the cemetery lot on "Chien fo shan" as the ground is Government property, the coffin ought to be removed. But as it has been there for several years, I will as a mark of special consideration freely allow it to remain. Should occasion for further interments arise in the future I will instruct the local officials to take whatever steps may be proper in the premises and as may be necessary to

preserve

preserve the most important and desirable good feeling between the missionaries and the Chinese.

The premises opposite the Prefect's Yamên, being just between that Yamên and the office of the Intendant of Circuit are in a locality the "fêng shui" of which is most important. I must therefore beg H. E. that after the Mission-aries shall have taken possession of those premises, you will advise the missionaries to so far regard the prejudices of the people as not to construct two storied buildings there, but in their repairs and alterations to be guided by the general height of the buildings on either side and opposite.

If H. E. finds no point of misunder-standing in this reply, I beg to name 12 O'clock noon of Tuesday, January, 22nd as the time when we may meet at my office to Exchange the necessary papers.

Hon. Chester Holcombe.

&c. &c. &c. &c.

Chinanfoo, January 20th, 1884.

No. 5/1884.

Mr. Holcombe to N. E. Chen.

Chinanfu, January, 22nd, 1884.

Y. E.

In the matter of the property purchased by Messrs. Murray and Hunter in this city, under the terms of agreement reached between Y. E. and myself, the said missionaries were to accept the premises opposite the Prefect's Yamên and Taels 3,000.- "quang ping" pure silver, in exchange for the premises originally purchased, and they were to pay the transfer tax of Taels 83 10/11 Treasury weight pure silver. The various title deeds have this day been exchanged between Y. E. and myself, and the two sums of money named above have also been paid in full.

The various points in this settlement together with certain stipulations having been agreed to and made clear by the exchange

of

of memoranda and official despatches, and all points of misunderstanding having been removed these stipulations shall without Exception be carried out in good faith on either part.

Having delivered the title deeds of their new property and the amount of money received from H. E. namely Taels 3,000.— quaney ping pewie silver, to Messrs. Murray and Hunter, it is with much pleasure and satisfaction that I have the honour to address H. E. and to announce that I consider this case as disposed of.

I have &c.—

(Signed) Theodore Holcombe.

No. 6/1884

N. E. Chen to Mr. Holcombe:

—

Chuanfoo, January, 22nd, 84.

Y. E:—

I have had the honour to receive your despatch of this date as follows (Here follows full text of my 5/1884. of same date (S.) C.N.).

I beg to observe in this case which has remained so long in unsettled that Y. E. and I having, as a result of our frequent conferences, come to an equitable and satisfactory understanding, and the various points of agreement having been explicitly laid down in our correspondence so that no need of further discussion existed, I have this day received from Y. E. the unofficial papers four in number, in the purchase of the original premises by the missionaries next the Do yuan Shen yuan. I have also received

from

from you the transfer tax Taels 83 10/11 treasury weight, pure silver. And I have delivered to you the official title deeds for the premises opposite the Prefects' Yamen, and a check for Taels 3,000, guange ping pure silver.

Having therefore exchanged personally all the papers and monies called for in the premises, I have given orders that the various points in our agreement shall be carried into effect in good faith, and beg to agree with you that this business is closed. —

Hon. Chester Holcombe.

Chinanfu, January, 22nd, 1884.

Shimanfu,

January 23rd, 1884.

To,

Rev. Messrs. John Murray.
Stephen A. Hunter.
Paul D. Bergen.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to inform you that I have arranged a settlement of your "Chapel case" with the Governor of this province upon the following basis:-

1st. You are to receive certain premises upon the West Great Street opposite the Prefect's Yamën in lieu of those originally purchased by Mr. Mc. Sloane and given to the Mission. As the premises thus given in exchange are not equal in value to those originally purchased, the Governor consents to pay you the sum of Taels three thousand, fine silver, "quang ping",

as

as an equivalent to the difference in value. He is further to furnish you with a stamped official deed for the property, and you are to pay the usual fees for such deed and the legal rates on the property as they come due.

2nd. The Governor promises to instruct the local authorities to render you all proper assistance in securing, either in the West or South suburbs of this city, suitable land on which to erect houses for residence, and to see that, when such land is found that legal deeds be furnished you therefor, upon payment of the proper fees.

3rd. The Governor pledges himself that all prosecutions begun by the local authorities against Chinese subjects, because of their connection with the purchase of the original premises, shall be at once abandoned.

4th

4th. In the matter of the burial lot purchased by you outside the city, the Governor promises either to secure you in the undisturbed possession and use of it, or to furnish you an equally suitable lot in another equally suitable locality.

And, upon the part of the Legation, I have agreed;—

5th That, whenever in future you may contemplate the purchase of land and of buildings in or near the city, you will, after coming to terms with the owner, and before completing the purchase, notify the local authorities as is required by Chinese law, who will, if no special objection be found to exist, sanction the purchase and furnish stamped deeds upon payment of the legal fees, and

6th I have assured the Governor that, in the construction of buildings by you, you will, while being quite at liberty to adopt the foreign style

of

of architecture, so far conform to Chinese usage and superstition as not to erect any two storied buildings or towers or spires of any sort. The promises made by the Governor are in writing and over his official seal, and there is no good reason to doubt that they will be carried out in good faith.

I beg your especial attention to the assurances given to A. E. by me, and trust that you will conform strictly to them. Such conformity will, in my judgment, go far to promote the success of your mission work, and to secure to you the confidence and friendship of the Chinese authorities and people. While the settlement indicated above may not be all that you had desired or hoped for in this long standing and vexatious case, yet, so far as I can see, it is the best that could be done under the peculiar

peculiar circumstances existing. It has been most amicably reached, - after long, careful and repeated discussions with the Governor of the province.

I trust that, this case being settled and the excitement and animosity to which it gave rise - being removed, the way will be opened to a quiet and prosperous prosecution of your Christian - work here.

I enclose the official deeds for the property given in exchange, 1/c
and an order for Taels 3,000.- For 2/c
these documents I beg a formal - acknowledgement, and,

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Secretary of Legation.

Tsi-nan-fu.
January, 23rd, 1884.

To,
Hon. Chester Holcombe.
Peking.

Sir,

Having received your official despatch of January, 23rd concerning the final settlement of our Chapel-difficulty, we have the honour to make the following acknowledgements.

1st We have received Taels three-thousand, fine silver, "quang ping", in full payment for difference in-value between the place formerly-owned by us, and the property-opposite the Fu Yamên.

2nd We have received the deeds of-said property, bearing the official-seals and dating back forty years.

3rd Our possession of this property, has been formally recognized by-the

the District Magistrate.

In closing we deem it but just that we should offer you an acknowledgement of our appreciation of the earnest efforts which you have made in our behalf, to secure the best possible terms for us, which, if not all that we could have desired, have obtained for us official recognition, which, in this interior city may be of value to us in the future, and, at your departure, have left both, us Officials and people in a seemingly friendly attitude toward us.

We remain,

Sir,

Your obedient servants.

(Signed) John Murray.

( " ) Stephen A. Hunter.

( " ) Paul D. Bergen.

Despatch No. 413.

Enclosure 2.

No. 9/1884.

Mr. Young to Prince Kung.

February, 16th, 1884.

Y. I. N.: —

Referring to my despatch of November, 30th, 1883. to Y. I. N. in which you were informed that it was my intention to send Mr. Secretary Holcombe to Chinanfoo to arrange a case of long standing in that city, I have now the honour to inform you that Mr. Holcombe returned from his mission upon the 9th instant, having reached, in conference with H. E. the Governor of Shantung, a satisfactory solution of the question at issue. —

In thus informing Y. I. N. of the settlement of this case, it is alike a duty and a pleasure to me to beg Y. I. N. to extend the thanks of my Government to H. E. the Governor of Shantung for the promptness and amicable spirit shewn in his conduct of the business, and especially for the personal courtesies

extended

Extended by him to Mr. Holcombe and, through his orders by the local authorities along the route of Mr. Holcombe's journey.

I have &c.

(Signed) John Russell Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 19 1884
RECEIVED

W. Edwards
&
Wm Rockhill

No. 414. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1884.

Ys July & Mar 1884

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Account for telegrams.

Synopsis.

Forwards a statement of this account to date with vouchers. Gives explanation in regard to Voucher "H."

WM

No. 414. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 1st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith a statement of account for telegrams recently sent by this Legation upon public business. Each item is accompanied by the usual voucher and also by a copy of the message to which it refers. 1/414.

In regard to voucher "H", I beg to observe that this sum

sum has been necessarily paid by me to secure the rectification of your cipher message received here March 14th. In accordance with the rules of the telegraph service I have paid this amount for repeating and correcting the message, and as the errors arose in transmission, a formal demand for the refunding of the sum has been filed by me, and will doubtless be granted. In such an event, the Government will be duly credited with the amount at issue.

I

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.

1. Account for telegrams.

"A"

Telegram.

—

Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour

—

21st December, 1883.

File Index

Seymour

Tamsui.

Yamen inform Legation orders sent Viceroy settlement American claims. What progress has been made.

Young.

"B."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire.

21st January, 1884.

American Consulate General.
Shanghai.

Please inform Mr. Twombley - Vernon Bay claim referred - Washington.

Young.

"C."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire.

No. 284. February, 6th, 1884.

Please send copy reply to Legation despatch number twelve, April, 1882 - Holcombe series, - send papers and vouchers in settlement of Ward claims.

Young.

Cypher "D"

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Frelinghuysen.

3rd March, 1884.

Frelinghuysen.

Washington.

Seymour reports Chinese authorities cancel suggestion Legation Washington stopped all certificates last November. Shall I present instruction number 188.

Young.

"E."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Frelinghuysen.

4th March, 1884.

Secretary State.
Washington.

Recommend delay action —
Goldsborough's application leave.
Young.

"F"

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Frelinghuysen.

3rd March, 1884.

Frelinghuysen,

Washington.

Coreular premises apparently suitable. Special enquiries Shanghai necessary before recommendation sent, cheapness.

Young.

"G".

Telegram.

---

Mr. Young to Mr. Goldsborough.

---

March, 4th, 1884.

Goldsborough.

Amoy.

Send copies -
English Chinese correspondence
with Taotai Edwards opium -
smuggling also certified copy -
proclamation issued by Chinese.

Young.

" "

I.

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire.

March. 29th, 1884.

Cheshire

American Consul General.

Shanghai.

Leave for Shanghai Wednesday

Reserve all mail and telegrams.

Young.

"K."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Admiral Davis.

March. 29th., 1884.

Admiral Davis.

Hong Kong.

Leave Wednesday morning Shanghai. Orders - Department inspect Consulates. Please instruct commander - receive myself and two attachés. Shall go direct Hong Kong to meet you. Please answer.

Young.

I.

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Pilcher.

March, 31st, 1884.

Pilcher,

Tientsin.

Leave on Wednesday reserve Legation mail.

Young

"A."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour.

21st December, 1883.

Seymour

Canton.

Yamen inform Legation orders sent Viceroy settlement American claims. What progress has been made.

Young.

"B."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire.

21st. January, 1884.

American Consulate General.
Shanghai.

Please inform Mr. Twombley -
Vernon Hay claim referred -
Washington.

Young.

"C"

Telegram.

—

Mr. Young to Mr. Thrasher.

—

1884. February, 6th, 1884.

Please send copy reply to Legation despatch number twelve, April, 1882 - Holcombe series, - send papers and vouchers in settlement of Ward claims.

Young.

Cypher "D"

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Frelinghuysen.

3rd March, 1884.

Frelinghuysen,
Washington.

Seymour reports Chinese authorities Canton suggestion Legation Washington stopped all certificates last November. Shall I present instruction number 188.

Young.

"E."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Frelinghuysen.

4th March, 1884.

Secretary State
Washington.

Recommend delay action -
Goldsborough's application
leave.

Young.

"F"

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Frelinghuysen.

3rd, March, 1884.

Frelinghuysen.

Washington.

Consular —

premises apparently suitable. —
Special enquiries Shanghai necessary
before recommendation rent, —
cheapness.

Young.

"G."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Goldsborough.

4th March, 1884.

Goldsborough

Amoy.

Send copies English Chinese correspondence with Sir T. Edwards Opium smuggling also certified copy - proclamation issued by Chinese.

Young.

I.

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire.

March, 29th, 1884.

Cheshire
American Consul General.
Shanghai.

Leave for Shanghai - Wednesday Receive all mail and telegrams.

Young.

"K."

Telegram.

Mr. Young to Admiral Davis.

March, 29th, 1884.

Admiral Davis.

HongKong.

Leave Wednesday morning Shanghai orders Department inspect Consulates. Please instruct Commander receive myself and two attachés. Shall go direct HongKong to meet you. Please answer.

Young.

"L"

Telegram.

Mr Young to Mr Pilcher.

March, 31st, 1884.

Pilcher
Tientsin.

Leave on
Wednesday receive Legation
mail.

Young.

Tele

To Director New Orleans Exp. Co. for approval. Let circular

No. 3.

# CABLE MESSAGE

## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

All CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company for the purpose, and are subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.
THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager. NORVIN GREEN, President.

Department of State. APR 9 1884 RECEIVED.

| NUMBER | SENT BY | REC'D BY | CHECK |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 31 | nly | Kn | 11 Kungchow |

Received at Iowa April 2, 1884

To Secretary State Washington

Prince Kung accepts invitation China exhibit New Orleans exposition

Young

Department of State. APR 9 1884 RECEIVED.

[Mr. Young in his 415 states that this was sent April 2d.]

Mrs Edwards

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 1 1884
RECEIVED

No. 415. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 2nd, 1884.

John Russell Young to

the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The New Orleans Exposition.

Synopsis.

China has accepted invitation to participate in this exposition. Incloses copies of correspondence with Prince Kung, and confirms cable message of this date.

No. 415. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 2nd, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

In my despatch number 343. dated January 31st, I referred to the proposed exposition at New Orleans and my efforts to secure from the Chinese officials an acceptance of the Presidents invitation. I did not deem it best to present the invitation formally until all had been done in the way of inquiry and conversation

conversation to make sure that the incident would be something more than a mere formal exchange of notes, and the condition of public affairs, which has so long been an " embarrassment to China, gave hope that the " invitation would be " accepted. The impression which governed my " despatch number 343. was that China would take part in no expositions unless those of a national character.

As this is a Government in which persuasion

is

is not altogether a "
negative force, I requested
Mr. Holcombe to again see
the Yamen and, in his
conversation with the
Ministers, express the deep
interest felt by my "
Government in this "
exposition, that New Orleans
was the emporium of the
South, and that there were
political reasons arising
out of the position of
New Orleans during the civil
war and the misfortunes
entailed upon the South
as a consequence, which
made us anxious to show
the world what the South

had

had done in industrial achievements in the recent years of peace and prosperity. Mr. Holcombe was instructed to say, also, that the Legation would place great value upon the participation of China in the exposition.

I am happy to say that these representations were heard with favor by the Ministers of the Yamen. They gave Mr. Holcombe a verbal assurance that China would take part in the exposition. Upon this assurance I addressed Prince Kung the formal

invitation

invitation enclosed herewith. 1/415.

I am now in receipt of the answer of H. I. H. of which I transmit a 2/415.
translation, and based upon which I have today sent you the following message by cable:—

"Prince Kung accepts
"invitation Chinese
"exhibit New Orleans."

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Enclosures.

# Enclosures.

1. Inv. Young to Prince Kung. 16/1884. March 17th, 1884.
2. Prince Kung in response. 23/1884. April 1st, 1884.

Dispatch No. 415.
Inclosure 1.

No. 16/1884.

Mr. Young to Prince Kung.

March, 17th, 1884.

Your Imperial Highness,

The President of the United States has issued a proclamation inviting all the nations of the world to unite in a "World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition" to be held in the city of New Orleans from Dec. 1884 continuously until May, 31st, 1885. I inclose for the information of Your Imperial Highness a copy of the act of Congress creating the Exposition. I am also instructed to convey to Your Imperial Highness and the Government of H. M. the Emperor an invitation in the name

of

of the President and people of the United States of America to take part in the projected Exposition, and to say that the President indulges the hope" that the "opportunity afforded by the Exposition "for the interchange of national "sentiment and friendly intercourse "between the people of both nations "may result in new and still "greater advantages to Science "and industry and at the same "time strengthen the bonds of "peace and friendship which "already exist between the "Government and people of China "and those of the United States."

In making this communication

communication I renew to Your
Imperial Highness the assurances
of my most distinguished
consideration

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Despatch No. 415.
Enclosure 2.

23/1884.

Prince Kung to Mr. Young.

April, 1st, 1884.

Y. E.:—

I have had the honour to receive your communication of March, 17th, in which you inform me that your Government has invited all the nations of the world to participate in a "World's Industrial and Cotton-Centennial Exposition" to be held in the city of New Orleans from December, 1884, to May, 31st, 1885. And you extend to China on behalf of the President of the U. S. an invitation to China to take part therein.

In response I have the honour to inform Y. E. that the Inspector

Inspector General of Customs has been instructed by this Office to appoint suitable Officers to have charge of a Chinese Exhibit.

Hon. John Russell Young.

ter ter ter ter

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 416.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions.

Synopsis.

Department instructions numbers 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. and 225. have been received.

No. 416.

Legation of the United States

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have had the honor to receive your instructions numbered respectively:—

220. dated February 4th, 1884.

221. dated February 5th, 1884.

222. dated February 6th, 1884.

223. dated February 6th, 1884.

224. dated February 7th, 1884.

225. dated February 12th, 1884.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 417. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Persecution of Chinese for purchase of land for missionary uses.

Synopsis.

Forwards copies of correspondence with Consul at Hankow upon this topic.

No. 417. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for your information copies of a correspondence between the Legation and the Consulate at Hankow. 1/417. 2/417.

I have the the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young.

Enclosures.

## Enclosures.

1. Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.
   No. 93. March 19th, 1884.
2. Mr. Young in response.
   No. 35. April 7th, 1884.

Despatch No. 417.
Enclosure 1.

No. 93.

Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.

Nankow, March, 19th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward you herewith two inclosures as follows viz:-

1. Letter from Rev.d C. F. Kupfer, of Kiukiang, regarding purchase of certain land, followed by punishment of the seller.

2. Consul's reply No. 507 in reply.

As the points arising are of much moment, especially here, where similar questions often offer themselves for solution and decision, I shall be under obligations if the minister will express his opinion as to correctness or otherwise of the Consul's decision in the case now presented to him.

X

(Signed)

Isaac F. Sheppard.
Consul.

- Enclosures. -

1. Copy of letter from Rev.d C. F. Kupfer.
2. Copy of Consul's No 507 in reply.

Mr. Kupfer to Mr. Shepard.

Kiukiang, March, 7th, 1884.

General Shepard.

United States Consul.

Dear Sir,

A few weeks ago I authorized one of our Church members, who is in our employ, to purchase a piece of land at Shih li pu for the purpose of building a school house. After he found a suitable piece that was for sale, he had the boundary-lines marked, and had the Chinese characters written on a land mark indicating what it was for. After one week the contract was closed, as no one brought charges against the boundary line or the man who was selling the land.

As soon, however, as the man had given his deed and had received the money, he was arrested by the officials for selling land-

privately

privately to foreigners, and land -
which partly belonged to the mandarin's
grave, as they now claim. This man
is now in the Hsien Yamên, and
is being abused badly. The charges
that (the) land belongs to the mandarin
is false. And the man who bought it
in his own name. I herewith Enclose
you the names of both men. Please
do for him what you can, for he
is innocent and is being tortured.

Oblige, Yours rec

(Signed) C. F. Kupfer.

No. 307.

Mr. Shepard to Mr. Kupfer.

March, 19th, 1884.

Rev. and dear Sir,

I have given close attention to the subject and request of your letter of the 4th inst. The matter is of much importance, but I am afraid it is out of my power to interfere, under Treaty stipulations. "Citizens of the United "States" are authorized to rent land and build on it for missionary uses, and must be protected in such rights. But in the case you report no citizen of the United States appears in the transaction. By your statement you instructed one of your Church members to buy land for the use of the mission. He fulfilled your wishes and bought land, as you inform me, "in his own name". Now I am forced to conclude the Church member in question was a native. If

so

so the fact that he was a Christian convert does not change his citizenship, nor remove from him any obligation to his own government. It follows, therefore, that the transaction was strictly between natives, although the ultimate use of the land was intended for foreigners. In matters between natives, I have no authority to interfere, nor would propriety or policy, warrant it. The effect of such interference would be prejudicial to our interests, for our only way to secure the guarantees of the Treaties is to abide by their terms in strictness, and yield to native authorities without controversy what are properly their prerogatives.

I may be in error but the fact that the seller is being persecuted, however it may excite pity does not seem to me to change the fact that it is purely an affair of natives with natives, in which a foreign official has

has no right to interfere. Had the land been purchased in the name of the Mission, or of any citizen of the United States representing the Mission, the whole status would be changed.

I propose however, to submit the whole matter to Mr. Minister - Young for his views upon it.

I am &c

(Signed) Isaac F. Shepard.
Consul.

Despatch No. 417.

Enclosure 2.

No. 35.

Mr. Gourney to Mr. Shepard.

7th April, 1884.

Sir,

I have read and carefully considered your despatch No. 93 dated, March 19th, 1884.

I may note if you will allow me, that your despatch embraces two distinct subjects. It will serve the Legation if in preparing a despatch you confine it to but one subject.

In regard to the purchase of the land by Mr. Kupper, and the punishment of the Chinaman who sold it, I have read with care your presentation of the case, I note the difficulties, and see the impossibility of our attempting to interfere between the subjects of China and the Authorities. At the same time I think that while we may have no legal right to interpose, we should not permit such an incident as that you report at Kiukiang to pass without an earnest remonstrance. You should in all such cases, say to the Chief official, that nothing gives the Government more pain than to be conscious that a Chinaman had been

been tortured because he had obliged an American citizen; that it could only be regarded as the manifestation of an unfriendly Spirit, and would throw doubt upon the sincerity of any assurances to the contrary.

The case you recite is among the most difficult of the problems with which we have to deal in Bhutia. Their difficulty arises from the fact, that we have no standing under the treaties. At the same time I have always held the opinion that we have a moral position, which we should not cease to defend. I should never permit such an incident to pass, without Expressing to the Authorities, my opinion in the plainest and frimest manner.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 418. See desp. to Young of June 21.

Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Foreign intervention in native land purchases.

Synopsis.

Forwards copies of correspondence with Consul at Hankow, and asks approval of Department.

No. 418. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith, for your consideration and approval, copies of a recent correspondence between the Legation and the Consulate at Hankow: 1/418. 2/418.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Edward Denny

Enclosures.

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.
   No. 93. March 19th, 1884.
2. Mr. Young in response.
   No. 36. April 7th, 1884.

Despatch No. 418.

Enclosure 1.

No. 93.

Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.

Nanking, March, 19th, 1884.

Sir,

× × × ×

× × ×

× ×

×

Apart from the foregoing I have had under consideration another land case, and without at present intimating my conclusions, I much wish your Excellency's opinions on some of the points involved. I respectfully present them under a suppositious case, viz:-

a. Ah Sin, a Chinaman, sells or leases lands and tenements to Ah-Kow another Chinaman. The sum to be paid is agreed upon, and given in full by buyer to seller.

b. Ah Sin neglects and refuses to deliver the property as covenanted,

and

and personally occupies it, and receives rents for the same month after month.

c. - After various subterfuges and pretexts on the part of Ah Sin, with no progress towards receiving his rights Ah Kow consults a Foreigner, who in turn consults the sub prefect of the district. This official condemns the conduct of Ah Sin and suggests to the Foreigner to buy the property, giving assurance that Ah Sin shall put him in possession.

d. - The Foreigner at length buys the land, and the sub prefect neglecting to secure possession, the Foreign purchaser appeals to the Consul to secure from the higher authorities the rights that have been purchased.

e. Now arise several questions, among them this. - Can Foreigner claim Consular aid to enforce the contract between Ah Sin and Ah Kow ? or, is that strictly a matter between two natives to be treated and disposed of by

by native officials without foreign interference.

f.- Has Foreigner any remedy beyond a recourse to Ah-Kow, from whom he purchases his rights?

g. What effect upon the transaction, or upon Foreigner's remedy, has his foreknowledge of the refusal to deliver persisted in by Ah Sin?

h.- What effectual bearing upon the case, if any, can come from the verbal assurance of the Sub-prefect that delivery should follow, given before the purchase by Foreigner?

i.- In case of appeal to the Tao'tai, and his assumption that it is strictly a native matter, in which a Foreigner has no right to interfere, refusing to take any steps to put Foreigner in possession, what can be done about it?

If you can find time to give your views upon these points, you will simplify future cases that may

may arise, and probably lead to a clearer conception of rights and duties in such matters by our missionary fellow countrymen.

I am Sir

(Signed) Isaac F. Shepard

Consul.

Despatch No. 418.
Enclosure 2.

No. 36.

Mr. Young to Mr. Shepard.

7th April, 1884.

Sir,

As a further acknowledgement of your despatch No. 93, dated March, 19th I have to say that I have carefully considered the supposable case in reference to the transfer of land which you present to the Legation.

My judgment is this, until the land actually passes into the hands of an American citizen, we have no right to interfere. I think likewise that a Consul should take special pains to satisfy himself that the holding of the land by an American is Bona fide, and not an attempt to use the Government to affect Chinese litigation.

I am &c

(Signed) Jno. Russell Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 419.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Claim of Mr. Peter K. L. Cole.

Synopsis.

Acknowledges Department instruction number 224. Refers to earlier despatches, numbers 377. 396. and 403. as containing all the knowledge available in this claim.

No. 419.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your instruction number 224. of February 7th, in further reference to the claim of Rev. Peter K. L. Cole of Omaha, Nebraska, against the estate of the late General Frederick Ward, and growing out of the so called "Ward "Claims."

My despatches numbers 377. 396. and 403., dated March

March 10th u., 27th u., and 29th u.
respectively, have given
the Department all the
information within the
possession of the Legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Russell Sampson

Rec'd June 17th 1884
Read

Sent to Mr. Goldsborough June 16 1884
Read

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 420. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Citizenship of Mr. St J. H. Edwards.

Synopsis.

Acknowledges receipt of Department instruction number 222. a copy of which has been sent to Mr. Goldsborough. Complains of the tone of his despatches and encloses a specimen copy.

No 420. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your despatch number 222. dated February 6th, 1884. in reference to the case of Mr. Edwards at Amoy. I have sent a copy to Mr. Goldsborough for his information and guidance.

The Department may be well assured that, in this whole matter, I have endeavored to show Mr. Goldsborough

Goldsborough the utmost consideration. It is much more agreeable to the Legation to sustain the Consuls than to overrule them. In the present case, following that opinion, I accepted Mr. Goldsborough's statement as to the citizenship of Mr. H. Edwards without question. When further evidence came I changed my decision. The reasons which governed me have met with your approval, and I have seen no evidence to invalidate that conclusion.

I must respectfully call your attention to the tone

tone of Mr. Goldsborough's
despatches, of which a
specimen copy just " 1/420
received, is enclosed.
In all our correspondence,
I have shown that "
gentleman entire courtesy
and respect. If I have
had occasion to say "
anything severe, or to point
out the absurdity of his
arguments, I have not been
to blame. His course in
this whole business has
been most unaccountable.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Fox Thomas Emy

Enclosure.

# Enclosure.

1. Lieut. Goldsborough to Lieut. Young.

No. 172. March 14th, 1864.

Despatch No. 420.
Inclosure.

No. 172.

Mr. Goldsborough to Mr. Young.

Army, 17th March, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to receive your No. 39, dated, February, 9th, 1884 in which you say "Mr. Studer remembers the details of a conversation with a venerable gentleman who believes that a person whom he knew nearly fifty years ago, was not an American citizen, but a native of the Bahama Islands".

To this criticism of Consul Studer very sensible painstaking and comprehensive letter I will make no reply.

How far it comports, however, with the dignity which should attend the position to which you have been assigned, the appointing power, of course, can best determine.

But you say.— "I cannot

"see

"see any facts in the letter of Mr. Studer
"to justify me in changing my own
"judgment, (a matter of interest to you,
I presume) "or recommending the
"Department to do so." Well, possibly
you are right, in concluding that
the Department, is leaning, solely
upon you, for guidance in the
matter. But, permit me, with
entire respect to say that, I should
not be struck quite dead with amaze-
ment, did the Department venture
to entertain an opinion of its own,
upon the subject and, dare even to
give expression to it - relying of
course, "upon that generosity, born
"of your superior ability, learning
"and experience."

And again, "the question of
"the moral character of Mr. Edwards
"has never been considered", by Your
Excellency, doubtless. But, that the
question of immoral character has
been considered, by the British
Authorities,

authorities, is equally certain. Since the mere absence of the former, is the sole reason for his outlawry by them now.

I will in conclusion respectfully make, with your permission, a statement, warranted by facts, - possibly, however, quite indifferent to you, - to wit: - The position assumed by you with reference to this character, is a subject for jest and laughter in this community; where, the British Consul, who - says he "will have nothing whatever "to do with the blackguard", (and more) attempts no concealment of his knowledge of his (Edwards) - antecedents, and status, or rather, non-status. Why, the Rev. D.r. J. V. H Talmage, a gentleman universally respected, and who has resided here for more than thirty years, two days ago in my presence, laughed and said, of him, "why, everybody -

knows

"knows, that he is a British subject"!
and this, is heard on every hand.

In the hurry of drafting my
No. 164, I said - "Your opinion upon
"that subject, however, I fancy will
"undergo a radical change when
"you have finished reading my No.
"163."

For this I beg to respectfully -
apologise, and to assure you that
upon reading the press copy -
afterwards, I at once discovered
the mistake, and felt well assured,
that your views would be about -
what you have stated. -

I am &c

(Signed) H. Elwell Goldsborough.

Consul

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

W. E. Edwards

No. 421.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Inspection of the Consulates.

Synopsis.

Department instruction number 221. has been received. Refers to despatch number 402. and confirms it and cable message of the 2nd instant.

No. 421.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your instruction number 221., dated February 5th, 1884., enclosing a letter from the Honorable Secretary of the Navy.

As I informed you in my despatch, number 402. of March 29th, and also by my telegram of the 2nd. instant, I left Peking as soon as possible after receiving

Your

your instruction number
217. of January 29th.

I arrived at Lientsin
on April 4th, had an
interview with H.E. Li
Hung Chang upon the 5th,
and am leaving at once
for Shanghai. My plan
is to go from Shanghai to
Canton direct in the U.S.S.
"Enterprise", and there make
special inquiry into the
Chinese immigration question.
I shall then visit the seaboard
ports, go up the Yangtze, and
perhaps leave the "Enterprise"
at Chefoo and go to Newchwang
in a merchantman.

I trust, as I said in

my

my cable despatch referred to above, that I may be able to finish the trip and return to Peking within six weeks.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

W. Rockhill Conger.

Mr Edwards & Mr Hitchcock

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 422. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 11th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Rendition of Legation accounts.

Synopsis.

Refers to previous despatch number 305. and Department instruction number 223. and forwards complete copies of the correspondence referred to therein.

No. 422. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 11th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your instruction number 223. of February 6th in response to my despatch number 305 of December 18th, relative to certain correspondence between the Comptroller of the Treasury and this Legation in regard to the rendition of accounts.

In response to the suggestion expressed in your instruction I have the honor

to

1/422. to submit herewith copies of the entire correspondence and to express my regret that the advantage to the " Department of such a course had not occurred to the " Legation.

You will, however, notice that these papers contain " nothing of interest save the request of Mr. Lawrence that passport fees be credited to the Government in our account for incidental expenses; that losses by exchange be debited to the Government in the same account. and my response saying that I could not comply with these requests

until

until your instruction in the premises had been taken.

In accordance with the tenor of your instruction under reply, in future all fees received for passports will be credited in the account for incidental expenses. Loss by exchange will be made a separate account and drafts drawn as heretofore.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.

## Enclosure.

1. Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Young.
   January 6th, 1883
   Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Young.
   April 20th, 1883.
1. Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Young.
   August 8nd, 1883.
   Mr. Sarbell to Mr. Young
   (3) September 19th, 1883.
   Mr. Young to Mr. Lawrence.
   No. 162/1883. December 18th, 1883.

Despatch No. 422.
Inclosure.

Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Young.

January, 6th, 1883.

Sir,

Your account of Salary from March, 15th to Sept. 30th, 1882 has been revised per Report No. 97,276, and there has been found due to you, a balance of $1662.91

Less dfto Outstanding:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| July, 7th, 1882 | $486.65 | |
| Sep. 25th " | 301.72 | |
| " 25th " | 679.03 | $1467.40 |

Actual balance your due. $ 195.51

Balance claimed by you. " 204.93

Difference against you. $ 9.42

Being overcharge for time while receiving instructions and making transit to your post of duty, which you will please credit in your next Salary account.

I am &c

(Signed) R. Lawrence

Comptroller.

Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Young.

April, 20th, 1883.

Sir,

Your account of Salary for the quarter ended Dec. 31st, 1882, has been adjusted per Report No. 98,177, and a balance found due to you from the United States of $3282.59

Balance claimed per your a/c. 292.01

Difference. $2,990.58

Thus accounted for:-

Draft on Morelon Rose & Co. Nov. 28th 1882, £616.9.2. yet outstanding. } $3000.-

Less overcharge for Salary while receiving instructions and making transit, as already advised in letter of Jan. 6th, 1883.- 9.42

$2,990.58

The item of $9.42 you have already been requested to credit to the United States, in your next Salary account. The remaining difference is nominal only, and will be removed in due course

course of business.

Inasmuch as loss by Exchange on all drafts of United States Ministers is paid from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of Foreign Missions, you will, in future, please charge <u>all</u> loss by Exchange in your account of Contingent Expenses.

I am &c

(Signed) Wm. Lawrence

per. Jno. Thomson

M^r Lawrence to M^r Young.

August, 3^rd, 1883.

Sir,

In the rendition of your accounts, you are requested to keep them separate, by making an account current for Salary and one for Contingent Expenses, crediting in each the drafts drawn against that account.

You will also credit the amount rec'd for passport fees in your account for Contingent Expenses and draw for the balance.

Very respectfully

(Signed) William Lawrence.
per Jos. Thompson.

Mr. Farbell to Mr. Young.

Sept. 19th, 1883.

Sir,

Your a/c of Rent of Buildings and Grounds for detatin from Jan. 1st, 1883 to March, 31st, 1883 has been adjusted per Report No. 99,365 and there has been found due from you to the United States a balance of $750.

Balance admitted per your a/c. 180.

Difference. $569.93

Being draft on Secretary of State for above amount already paid and charged to you, but not credited in your present account, dated July, 29th, 1883. for $569.93 which will undoubtedly be credited in your next account of Rent rec rendered June, 30th, 1883.

I am Sir

(Signed) J. Farbell.

Mr. Farbell to Mr. Young.

Sept. 19th, 1883.

Sir,

Your account of Contingent Expences for the quarter ended March, 31st, 1883, has been adjusted per report No. 99,364 and a balance found due to you from the United States of $309.55

Balance admitted per y. account. 88.93

Difference. $398.48

Thus accounted for.

Being less by Exchange Claimed in your Salary account. now credited in this adjustment. $398.48

You will please debit the above amount to the United States in your nett account of Contingent Expences.-

I am &c

(signed) J. Farbell.

Mr. Tarbell to Mr. Young.

Sept. 19th, 1883.

Sir,

Your account of salary for the quarter ended March, 31st, 1883. has been adjusted per report No. 99,366. and a balance found due to you from the United States of $2820.58

Balance admitted per your account. 97.79

Difference. $2,918.37

Thus accounted for:-

Draft on Morton, Rose & Co., dated Nov. 26th, 1882 £616.9.2 yet outstanding.

$3,000.-

Error in footing Credit Side of your account current 1st Qr, 1883.

$3816.21
3489.94 $326.27

$3,326.27

Less.

Loss by Exchange settled in Contingent A/c. 398.48

Error in computing salary for Sept. Qr, 1882. 9.42 $407.90

Difference explained.- $2918.37

Jn

In relation to the above draft drawn on Morton, Rose & Co., for £ 616.9.2 $3,000. dated Nov. 26th, 1882 and credited in your account rendered for the first Qr. 1883. please explain whether it was not the same identical draft, credited by you, in the 4th Qr. 1882, that being dated Nov. 28th, 1882. for the same amount ($3000.-).

The Error in footing $326 27/100 against yourself, you will please debit to the United States in your next salary account. The item $398.48 loss by Exchange you will please credit to the United States in your next Salary a/c. being settled in Contingent account, as explained in letter of Even-date herewith.

Also credit item of $9.42 in your next salary a/c. as previously advised in former letters from this office.

I am Sir
(Signed) J. Farbell.

No. 102/1883 One Enclosure.

Mr. Young to Mr. Lawrence.

December, 18th, 1883.

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your several letters of January, 6th, April. 20th, August, 3rd and Sept., 19th in regard to the various accounts of this Legation.

In the first named I am requested to credit the Government with $9.42 being overcharge for time while receiving instructions and making transit. I have carefully re-examined these accounts and have failed to discover the error to which you refer. The amount will, however, be credited to the Government in my salary account for this quarter.

In your letter dated Sept., 19th 1883, you call my attention to an error of $326.27 in footing credit side of my account

account for Salary for 1st Quarter, 1883.
I have most carefully re-examined that
1/102 account, of which I enclose a copy, and
entirely fail to discover the error to
which you refer.

You also call my attention to
my draft drawn on Morton, Rose &co.,
for £616"9"2 dated, November, 26th,
1882 "and credited in your account
"current for the 1st Quarter, 1883" and
enquire whether it was not the same
identical draft credited by you in the
4th, Quarter, 1882 that being dated,
Novr, 28th, 1882 for the same amount
($3,000.-).

I beg to reply that it was most certain-
ly not the same draft as that credited
in my account for 1st Quarter, 1883.
There were, as there should be, two drafts,
each for £616"9"2., one being No. 4404
dated Novr and credited in my Salary
account for 4th Quarter, 1882; and one
being No. 4105, dated March, and
credited in my Salary a/c for 1st Quarter,
1883.

1883. My abstract of accounts for salary on file, and the stubs of my book of drafts on Bioreau, Rose Bro., both show the above to be the facts in the case.

I trust that upon re-examination of the accounts in question you will find the explanation given above to be correct.

Referring to certain requests made in your several letters under reply, I beg to state that as they appear to be in conflict with the instructions given by the Secretary of State, this Legation would labour under a certain embarrassment in complying with them. Thus in your letters of April, 20th, and September, 19th, I am instructed to charge all losses by Exchange in the Legation a/c for "Contingent Expenses". By my instructions from the Secretary of State, I am instructed to render a separate a/c for all losses by exchange and to draw directly upon him for the amount due. But there is also another

another obstacle in the way of compliance with this request. The allowance for the Contingent Expenses to this Legation is a fixed amount for which I am directed to draw as per my letters of credit upon the London Bankers of the State Department. The allowance is so small that were the losses by Exchange to be made a charge against this account, little or nothing would be left for the many necessary items of incidental expense to which the Legation is subject.

Again in your Circular instruction, dated, August, 3rd. I am instructed to- "credit the amount received for passport "fees in my account for "Contingent "Expenses". The repeated and explicit- directions of the Secretary of State to this Legation are to the effect that all passport fees are to be credited to the- Government in my account for ~~in~~ Salary.

It will be a pleasure to me to comply with your requests in-

the

the particulars named above should the instructions of the Department of State be so far modified as to allow me to do so. -

I have &c

(Signed) Jno. Russell Young.

- Enclosure -

1. Abstract of salary account for 1st. Quarter, 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards
&
Mr Rockhofer

1 One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking April 15th, 1884.

Chester Holcombe to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.
Account for salary.

Synopsis.
Refers to Despatch of March 31st, and forwards a duplicate statement of this account.

FM

One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 15th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, I have the honor to submit a duplicate statement of my account for salary for the quarter ending with that date. 1/ H

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Chester Holcombe

H

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Duplicate of salary account for quarter ended March 31st, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 423. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 15th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Account for salary.

Synopsis.

Refers to dispatch number 406.
and forwards a duplicate of
statement of this account.

No. 423. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 15th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

Referring to my despatch number 406. of March 31st, I have the honor to transmit herewith a duplicate statement of my account for salary for the quarter ended with that date. 1/423.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[redacted]

Enclosure.

# Enclosure.

1. Duplicate of salary account for quarter ended March 31st, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards
&
Mr Buckhoffer

No. 424. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 15th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Legation rent account.

Synopsis.

Refers to dispatch number 410. and encloses a duplicate statement of this account.

TM

No. 424. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 15th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch number 410 of March 31st, I have the honor to forward a duplicate statement of the present account of this Legation for the quarter ended March 31st, 1884. 1/424.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jas. Russell Lowell

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Duplicate of rent account for quarter ended March 31st, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards
to
Mr Hickhoefer

No. 425. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 15th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Incidental expense account.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 411. and encloses a duplicate of this account.

JM

No. 425. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 15th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch number 411. of the 31st ult. March, I have the honor to transmit herewith a duplicate statement of the incidental expenses of this Legation for the quarter ended March 31st ult., 1884. No. 425.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[signature]

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Duplicate of incidental expense account for quarter ended March 31st, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards
to
Mr Rockhill

No. 426. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.
Peking, April 15th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Account for telegrams.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 414. and covers a duplicate of this account.

JM

No. 426. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 15th, 1884.

Honorable F. F. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

Referring to my despatch number 414. of April 1st, I have now the honor to submit herewith a duplicate account for telegrams sent by me on the public service to March 31st, 1884. 1/426.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Duplicate of account for telegrams for February — March, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 23 1884
RECEIVED.

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1884

No. 427. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 16th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Temper of Chinese populace.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 407. and forwards copy of a despatch from Gen. Consul Seymour.

No. 427. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 16th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:-

As a further reference to my despatch number 411 7. of March 31st, I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the information of the Department, a copy of a despatch from Vice Consul Seymour at Canton, showing the temper of the people and the condition of affairs in Southern China.

I 1/427.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Thos. Lennox Conyngham

Enclosure.

1. Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young
No. 66. March 22nd, 1894.

Despatch No. 427.
Enclosure.

No. 66.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

March, 22nd, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the condition of affairs in Southern China is not altogether indicative of tranquility; although, in the immediate vicinity of Canton, everything seems to be quiet. The two events, which are of sufficient importance to mention at the present time, are, the effects of the military operations resulting in the capture of Bachninh by the French Forces and the progress of the Chinese rebellion near Kwai Chow, in the Eastern portion of the province of Kuang Tung; from both of which points full and reliable information was this day received in Canton; although rumours had reached here earlier in the week.

Bachninh was captured and occupied

occupied by the French forces on the Evening of Wednesday, 12th inst., without much of a conflict - the total losses of both sides having been less than one hundred men; and about equally divided.

From all accounts of a reliable nature, it seems to have been an empty, and unexpectedly unimportant victory for the French; as the total population, at and about Bachninh, a week before its evacuation by the natives, numbered over twenty five thousand; all of whom have retired or retreated farther into the interior - the first stand being located at Thaniguyen; with a more remote and formidable point called Langson; toward which places, the French forces are understood to be slowly advancing.

The French flotilla, consisting of the "Fluvier", "Lynx", "Leopard", "Aspic", "Trombe", and "Caroline", and several launches and juntes, laden with supplies &c found the river barricad-

-ed

ed at Langhon by stone and sunken junks.

As a distance of eighty miles has to be traversed between Bachninh and the nearest of the two places to which the hostile forces are moving; it is obvious that the French incur the danger and inconvenience of operating very far from their base of operations; but as the natives have not yet manifested any ability to offer any resistence to the French Forces, except to impede navigation, possibly the progress of the latter will be undisputed.

In the meantime, there is every reasonable prospect that the Chinese frontier may be the scene of occurrences, which will ultimately bring the French and Chinese armies into conflict, which must result disastrously to the Chinese; whose regiments, encumbered with banners, pikes, poles and spears; and with inferior arms, and

destitute.

destitute of discipline, so far as I could discern during their passage through Canton, are (omit utterly) impotent (omit and - worthless) against (omit any) well disciplined soldiers of Europe or America (omit of one twentieth of their numbers. I pitied the helpless idiots.)

When Lontai was captured by the French, the natives of Canton - were made to believe that the French had been mercilessly slaughtered immediately after occupying that - place; and, last week, Canton was assured and happy over the prevalent rumour that the French had been - enticed and entrapped into Bachninh; and even after the natives completly slaughtered their invaders.

(omit Such nonsence does not shew good sense; and is sure to deepen - public distrust in the ruling powers, or those who have aspired or pretended to be rulers. Conceit cannot live on - lies.)

When

When it was reported that Kachuuk had been captured; there was no great excitement in Canton; and the general remark was "we do not care, if the "French keep away from Canton. — ("Poor patriotism".)

The rebels at and about "Nway — "Chow"; in the Eastern part of the Province of Kuang Tung, (are demonstrating the weakness of the authorities; and are being re-enforced — the number of active rebels now numbering about ten thousand men.

As yet the government troops have not attacked the chief position of the rebels. On Sunday, 16th instant — at "Pak Mong Ta" there was a conflict, resulting in the loss of two hundred men, and wounding "Tang "on Tang", the mandarin in command of the Government forces.

The Nakka portion of the soldiers brought from Canton dispersed. The attack on the rebels was made by

soldiers

Soldiers from Fu nam.

The Triad Society, which is supposed to be helping the rebels, is rapidly increasing in numbers; as the people of Southern China are convinced there will be serious trouble.

The information regarding the troubles in the region of "Hwei Chow" is derived from a very trustworthy, (omit well balanced, and steady headed) German Missionary, Reverend E. R. Eichler, of the London Mission; who has passed the last month in the vicinity of the disturbances; and who returned to Canton this afternoon via Hong Kong; (omit where he supplied the China Mail of 21st inst. with the items therein published - he having supplied that journal with a letter on the subject a few days previously.

Mr. Eichler is a bright, calm, intelligent man, of excellent nerve, quiet manners, and good judgment.)

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour

U. S. Consul.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 23 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr. Edwards

No. 428. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 16th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinese immigration to the United States.

Synopsis.

Refers to previous correspondence and covers copy of despatch from Consul Seymour. Chinese Government not responsible for issue of fraudulent certificates.

No. 1428. One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 16th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

As a further reference to your instruction number 188. dated December 3rd, 1883., and to my despatches numbers 376. 382. and 392. dated March 7th, 14th, and 21st respectively, in regard to Chinese immigration to the United States, I have the honor to enclose a communication from Mr. Seymour at Canton. 1/1428.

You

You will note that Mr. Seymour again avers that "no certificates have been "issued by the proper official "designated for that business, "since November 10th, 1883, in "Canton."

Mr. Seymour proposes also, in response to my instruction, to go to Hongkong and make a special inquiry into the subject.

This despatch confirms the opinion which it was my duty to give as to the responsibility of the Chinese Authorities for the issue of false certificates. No such responsibility, so far as I

can

can learn attaches to them.

I shall proceed at once from Shanghai to Hongkong and Canton to give this whole question a careful examination.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Rosser Young

Enclosure.

1. Hon. Seymour to Hon. Young.
No. 67. March 24th, 1884.

Despatch No. 428.

Enclosure.

No. 67.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

March, 24th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt, this day of your despatch of the 7th inst., numbered 70, in regard to Chinese passengers' certificates, and asking me to "give the subject special "and immediate attention;" and suggesting that I should "visit Hong Kong in "person, and obtain the information "obtainable".

In compliance with such intimations of your wishes, I will endeavour to get at the facts, with the least possible delay; and give you results.

An explanation should be given as to differences in names (of those) appended to and inscribed in the certificates, and in my Statements regarding the names so used.

You

You are aware of the fact which may not be generally understood in America, that all Chinese names written in English are attempts to transfer to paper ideas of the sounds of such names when spoken in vernacular; and thus Chow, chou, Chau, are written by various persons to express the same name. And so with La, Lau, Low, Law and Low are written for the same name. Fu - Fau, Foo, are also written for the same name, as "Fau-chou" or "Foo-chow". The Emminent Professor S. W. Williams, author of the Chinese Dictionary, and historian of China, is charged by the talented editor Balfour, of the "North - "China Herald," with spelling the same word in different ways as quoted on last page.

By reference to Williams's Dictionary it appears "Tseung" in Canton and - Shanghai is the same as "Chung" in "Fuh-chau" or "Foo-chow".

So

So the name of the Superintendent of Customs at Canton is spelt by some - "Tsung", and by others "Chung".

This Consulate has usually used his name as "Tsung", by advice of the Interpreter; but I find the person to whom he delegated the business of issuing Chinese passenger Certificates writes his name in the English part of the Certificate "Chung"; and thus - while we have spoken of the Superintendent of Customs as "Tsung", the San Francisco papers alleged that fraudulent certificates were issued to and used by passengers, as - emanating from one "Chung".

Furthermore, the names of holders of certificates, upon arriving at San Francisco, may not be able to get their names written as put into the certificates; especially as names are reversed in China - the clan or - surname preceding the given names; and also in view of the fact that each

Chinaman

Chinaman usually has an alias.

As the next out-going steamer, - "City of Peking", will, according to the advertisement and Schedule, leave - HongKong, Tuesday, April, 1st; it is very desirable to be there when Chinese passengers are embarking on the steamer, or securing passage for the steamer, which is attended to by the Chinese Compradore of the Steamships companies and their agents.

So I shall go down to HongKong a day or two in advance of the departure of the steamer, and be on hand to obtain all obtainable information.

In the meantime, it may be stated that the steamers are generally going via - Honolulu; and the great bulk of Chinese passengers are announced as going to the Hawaiian Islands, instead of to San Francisco. It is possible they are re-shipped to British North American ports from Honolulu, or distributed along the Coast. -

Certainly, no certificates have

have been issued, by the proper
Official designated for that business,
since Nov. 10th, 1883, in Canton.

I am &c

(Signed)

Charles Seymour

U. S. Consul.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 23 1884
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards

No. 429. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 19th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Canton riot claims.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 384 and covers copy of a despatch from Consul at Canton. But one claim has been presented to the Legation and that will shortly be paid.

No. 429. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 19th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

As a further reference to my despatch number 384, dated March 15th, 1884., regarding the payment of losses incurred in the Canton riot, I have the honor to enclose a copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Seymour of Canton. 1/429.

Mr. Seymour expresses the hope, which I trust will be realized, that the

claim

claim of Messrs. Russell and Company will soon be paid. This is the only claim from Americans which has been presented to the Legation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.

1. Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young. No. 70. April 2nd, 1884.

Despatch No. 429.
Enclosure.

No. 70.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

April, 2nd, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that on Friday, 28th ult. the new wharf of Messrs. Russell & Co., was completed, and, for the first time, a Steamer, the "Nankow" (owned by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, British merchants), moored alongside the wharf; guarded by soldiers under orders of the Chinese authorities.

With the completion of their wharf, Messrs. Russell & Co., presented a revised claim for indemnity, amounting to about two thousand and three hundred dollars less than their original claim of ten thousand and six hundred dollars.

In presenting this claim on the 28th ult., I urgently requested immediate payment; and asked the Viceroy in my despatch this question -

May

"May I have the gratification of
"telegraphing Minister Young soon
"that Messrs. Russell & Co's claim is
"paid?"

Since I came to Hong Kong, on
the Chinese passenger business as-
you required, I have rec'd from
the Viceroy a despatch which leads
me to believe, that, as he has placed
this claim in the hands of Ex Judge
or Justice Kung, and Ex-Taotai and
new Grain Intendent Pang, for
settlement, it will be adjusted soon
after my return to Canton; which
will be to-morrow, Thursday, 3rd
instant.

I am &c
(Signed) Charles Seymour.
U. S. Consul.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 23 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 432. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 19th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinese immigration to the United States.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 428. and forwards copy of a telegram received from Asst. Consul Seymour.

No. 430. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 19th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch number 428 of the 16th instant, I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a telegram received from H.B.M. Consul Seymour of Canton, through the Consulate General. 1/430.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young

Enclosure.

# Enclosure.

1. Mr. Cheshire to Mr. Young
No. 251. April 3rd, 1884.

Despatch No. 430.

Enclosure.

No. 251.

Mr Cheshire to Mr Young.

April, 3rd, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you the following telegram rec'd from Mr Consul Seymour.

"Cheshire

"American Consulate, Shanghai.

"I inform Minister Chinese passenger "business apparently straight limited "to returning Californians on San "Francisco certificates and emigrants "to British and Mexican ports. "Honolulu emigration terminated "Steamer to-day took four hundred "returning Californians about forty "emigrants to British and Mexican "ports. Viceroy promises immediate "attention. [Russell's revised claim "about Eighty four hundred presented "Friday upon completion wharf.]"

omit

Owing to an interruption in the.

the line between this and Dentein I was unable to transmit the above telegram to you by wire.

I am &c

(Signed) F. D. Cheshire

T. C. General in charge.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 23 1884
RECEIVED.

W. Edwards

No. 431. Three Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 21st, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Claim of Mr. A. A. Fisher.

Synopsis.

Refers to Department instruction number 102. of March 18th, 1883. and reports the action taken.

No. 431. Three Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, April 21st, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

Referring to Department instruction number 102. of March 27th, 1883., and to my despatch number 199. of May 18th, 1883. in response in the claim of Rev. A. A. Fisher for personal injuries sustained in a Chinese riot on the French Concession at Shanghai in May, 1874., I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of an instruction

1/431.

instruction addressed to
2/1431. Mr. Mcheshire; a copy of
his report in reply; and
3/1431. a copy of a further "
instruction to him.

This case was "
referred to Mr. Mcheshire
for preliminary action
because, under the general
line of procedure adopted
in such matters by the
Chinese Foreign Office, it
must first be investigated
by their local authorities
before the Central "
Government will take a
decision. By sending it
at once to Shanghai, it
was hoped that the
ultimate

ultimate action in the premises might be facilitated.

Asking your approval of my course,

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant.

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire. No. 120. February 25th, 1884.
2. Mr. Cheshire to Mr. Young. No. 250. April 1st, 1884.
3. Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire. No. 137. April 19th, 1884.

Despatch No. 431.
Enclosure 1.

No. 120.

Mr. Young to Mr. Thouvie.

February, 25th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to call your attention to the correspondence between your office and this Legation in 1878 and 1879, in connection with certain claims of American Citizens for damages sustained in the riot on the French Concession at Shanghai in May, 1874, and more particularly to the following despatches:-

From Consul General to Legation.

No. 639 of Aug^st, 24th, 1878.
" 644 - " - " - 28th, 1878.
" 656 - " - Sept^r. 27th, 1878.
" 659 - " - Oct^r, 9th, 1878.
" 671 - " - Nov^r. 29th, 1878.
" 689 - " - June, 23rd, 1879

No.

No. 698 of August, 15th, 1879.

Legation to Consul General.

No. 132 of September, 6th, 1878.
-" 139 -" - October, 19th, 1878.
-" 150 -" - December, 19th, 1878.
-" 153 -" - December, 30th, 1878.
-" 171 -" - July, 3rd, 1879.
-" 211 -" - December, 16th, 1879.

A study of these papers will shew the following facts:-
1st That the demands of our people in the given case were substantially met by the Chinese Authorities, with the single exception of a claim of Mr. A. A. Fisher for personal injuries;
2nd That the amount of Mr. Fisher's claim was, with his consent, finally fixed between this Legation and your office at Taels 3,000.- Shanghai Sycee: and
3rd That this claim, after some correspondence was allowed

to

to lie in abeyance. It has never been revived.

I am now in receipt of instructions from the Secretary of State to bring up Mr. Fishers' claim with the Chinese Authorities and to press it to a conclusion. As it has never been raised between this Legation and the Foreign Office, it is thought best that, in the first instance, you should revive the discussion with the Intendent of Circuit at Shanghai.

You will therefore please take up the business as soon as possible, and present a claim for compensation on behalf of Mr. Fisher for the amount of Taels 3,000. S'Hai Sycee with interest added from the date of payment of the other claims, down to the date of the payment of our demand on behalf of Mr. Fisher. The rate of interest should be a reasonable one, say 8%.

Full

Full documents in support of this claim are on file in your office.

You will please keep the Legation fully informed as to the progress of your negotiation in this business.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Despatch No. 431.

Enclosure 2.

No. 250.

Mr. Cheshire to Mr. Gourney.

April, 2nd, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to hand you enclosed copies of correspondence which has passed between this office and the Taotai in regard to the claim of Mr. A. A. Fisher for injuries sustained during the riot in French Concession in 1874.

You will observe in the Taotai's reply that he has referred the matter to the Governor General and Governor of this province for instructions, on receipt of which he will again address me.

I am &c

Sir,

(Signed) F. D. Cheshire.

Enclosures.

No. 1. Mr. Cheshire to Taotai March, 11th, 1884.

" Taotai to Mr. Cheshire " 20th " "

No. 3782.

Mr. Cheshire to Mr. Shao.

March, 11th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform Y.E. that I have recd a despatch from H.E. the U.S. Minister at Peking to the effect that he has recd instructions from the Hon. Secretary of State at Washington to bring up Mr. Fisher's claim with the Chinese Authorities for personal injuries sustained during the riot in the French Concession in 1874 and to press it to a conclusion.

The Minister has instructed me to address you requesting payment of this claim, which amounts to $3,000.- principal, and to claim interest at the rate of 8% from the date of the payment by your predecessor, Lin, in 1879 of the claims of Americans (excepting Mr. Fisher's) for loss of property during the said riot.-

I.

I have the honour, therefore, to request G. E. to forward to this Office the amount of said claim - $3,000. - with interest added as above stated.

I have &c

(Signed) F. D. Fleshere.

V. C. General in Charge.

No. 3339.

Mr. Shao to Mr. Fleshire.

March, 20th, 1884.

Sir,

I had the honour to receive, on the 14th of the 2nd moon of the present year, a communication from you wherein you informed me that you had been placed in receipt of a despatch from H.E. the U.S. Minister at Peking to effect that he had rec'd instructions from the Honble Secretary of State at Washington to bring up Mr. Fisher's claim with the Chinese Authorities for personal injuries sustained during the riot on the French Concession in 1874 and to press it to a conclusion.

Accordingly, you requested that I would forward to your office the amount of this claim, namely $3000.— principal, with interest compelled at the rate of 8% from the date of the payment by my predecessor

Lin in 1879 of the claims of Americans (excepting Mr. Fisher's) for loss of property during the said riot.

With reference to the foregoing, I would beg to state that as compensation for loss of property sustained by Americans during the riot in 1874 on the French Concession, my predecessor Lin and the then Consul General Bailey agreed on the amount of $3,300. which was paid in 1879 and the question brought to a close, with the exception of Mr. Fisher's claim, who had failed to have his injuries investigated by the Chinese Authorities so that there was no way of ascertaining the truth of the claim. Besides, the number of natives who rec'd injuries during the said riot on the French Concession was considerable, but they never rec'd any compensation from the French Authorities. Taot'ai Lin therefore proposed to have the question dropped and nothing more

said

said about it. Soon after that, he received a reply from Mr. Consul General Bailey informing him that he would wait till he had rec'd instructions from the State Depart.t regarding Mr. Fisher's claim, and then further action would be taken in the matter. Taot'ai Lin at the time reported the matter to the Minister Superintendent of Trade, who in turn communicated the same to the Tsungli yamên. Since then no instructions have been rec'd relative to the case. At present I would not venture to decide whether the claim should be paid or not. I will, therefore, write to the Governor General and Governor for instructions, on receipt of which I shall again address you.

I now have the honour therefore, to address this communic.n to you beforehand for your information

(Signed) Shao

Intendent at Shanghai.

Despatch No. 431.
Enclosure 3.

No. 137. Three Enclosures.

Mr. Young to Mr. Fleshwie.

April, 19th, 1884.

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your despatch No. 250. covering a report of your correspondence with the Chinese authorities in the claim of Mr. A. A. Fisher. Your action as therein reported is approved. You will please press this claim with all due vigour, and report your action to the Legation.

I enclose herewith copies of certain papers in this claim which may be of service to you. 1. 2. 3. / 137.

We have no other papers in the case excepting such as have been received from your office.

I am &c

(Signed) Jas. Russell Young

Enclosures.

— Enclosures. —

1. Mr. Fisher to Mr. Frelinghuysen.
March, 15th, 1883.

2. Mr. Fisher to Mr. Young. —
April, 9th, 1883. —

3. Certificate of Dentist. —
April, 7th, 1883. —

accts
quin 23 pt
cipher

Form No. 3.

# CABLE MESSAGE.

## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

All CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company for that purpose, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager. — ANSON STAGER, Vice-President. — W. H. GREEN, President.

| NUMBER | SENT BY | REC'D BY | CHECK |
|---|---|---|---|
| 221 24 | On | 9 | 9 Canton |

DEPARTMENT OF STATE. APR 25 1884 RECEIVED

Received at 647 am 25 1884

To Frelinghuysen Washington

American Claim Canton Riot paid

Young

Mr Edwards

Not to be filed

No. 432. Two Enclosures

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 5th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
JUL 1 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Visit to Canton.

Synopsis.

Forwards copies of correspondence between Consul and Viceroy in relation thereto.

No. 432. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 5th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for your information copies of the correspondence between the Consul at Canton and Lehang, Viceroy of the "Two Kuang" provinces, in reference to my proposed visit to Canton. 1./432. 2./432.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Edward Conger

Enclosures.

## Enclosures.

1. Hon. Seymour to the Viceroy.
April 14th ult., 1884.

2. The Viceroy to Hon. Seymour.
April 17th ult., 1884.

Despatch No. 432.
Inclosure 1.

Mr. Seymour to Viceroy Chang.

April, 14th, 1864.

Sir,

The American Consul has the honour to inform H. E. that the Honourable John Russell Young, E. E. M. P. of the Government of the U. S. of America, at Peking, has started on a tour of inspection of the American Consulates in China; and left Shanghai yesterday on the U. S. S. "Enterprise" for Canton; which ship was placed at the disposal of the minister by Admiral Davis, now in the port of Canton; and as these distinguished officials of the U. S. Govern't will desire to pay their respects to the Viceroy, the American Consul conveys the above information, with his compliments and cards.

(Signed) Charles Seymour.
U. S. Consul.

Despatch No. 432.
Enclosure 2.

Viceroy Chang to Mr. Seymour.

In reply to an official communication that in the 10th year of the Reign of Kuang Hsü, 3rd moon, 19th day, there was received from His Honour the American Consul an official despatch, which implies (or intimates) that the American Minister at Peking has in this moon, on the 18th day, taken passage in the American steamer "Enterprise", on the way to Canton; which steamer the American Admiral Davis provided for the exclusive use of His Excellency the American Minister Young, for the purpose of visiting and Examining into the welfare of the American Consulates in the various ports of the Flowery Kingdom; and that His Excellency the Minister and the Admiral, (when the former arrives) will make a visit upon the Viceroy. Of this and the foregoing facts the

Viceroy

Viceroy has a clear and thorough ~
Knowledge.

Upon Examination, that is
recalling the past ~ N. E. the Minister
of your Excellent Country came to the
Flowery (Kingdom) Land at that ~
juncture when the Viceroy happened
to be on duties on the Northern ocean ~
that is Northern Section of China; thus
giving opportunities of many personal
interviews.

From the time of separation until
the present, there has existed deep ~
craving (or desire) for a re-union.

Now, that in a few days, N.
E. the Minister, after having arrived
in Canton, accompanied by the ~
Admiral, are going to make a ~
balmy visit upon the Viceroy; ~
which will give the Viceroy an
opportunity of greeting (or receiving)
their bright countenances and noble ~
(high-bred) character ~ hence ~
(providentially) fortunately the Viceroy's
accumulated

accumulated anxieties for a meeting could be set aside. All of which are the Viceroy's joyous desires.

Having received a despatch containing such news, it behoves the Viceroy to make a reply to His Honour the Consul for Examination and deliberation.

On account of the foregoing, this reply is made; and the Viceroy availes himself of the opportunity of sending (in writing) the compliments of the season.

To the

Great American, with the nomination of the President, to live at Luang (Tung) Chow for managing the American commercial interests

Consul Mandarin

"She".

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED

Wm Edwards

No. 433. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 8th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Repairs to the Legation premises.

Synopsis.

Refers to Section 7th of the lease and forwards a statement of monies expended for repairs during the years 1882 and 1883.

No. 433. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 8th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of the monies expended for repairs upon the premises of this Legation during the years 1882. and 1883. The last preceding statement will be found in Mr. Holcombe's despatch number 63. of February 13th, 1882. 1/433.

As I understand it, this statement need not be

be forwarded to the Treasury Department. It is merely filed with the Department of State and the Legation by the attorney of the owner of the property in order to show that Section 7th of the lease, which provides for the annual expenditure of $600. upon the property in repairs etc., has been faithfully complied with.

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.

# Enclosure.

1. Statement of repair account of Ligation premises for the years 1882. and 1883.

# The United States Legation in

## January, 1st, 1882.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1882. | | | | D.r. |
| June | 30 | To Chinese carpenters bill for repairs to date (Voucher "A") | $ | 271 97 |
| Dec. | 31 | -"- Chinese carpenters bill for repairs to date (Voucher "B.") | " | 337 56 |
| 1883. | | | | |
| June | 30 | -"- Chinese carpenters bill for repairs to date. (Voucher "C.") | " | 56 70 |
| Dec. | 31 | -"- Chinese carpenters bill for repairs to date (Voucher "D.") | " | 392 61 |
| -"- | -"- | -"- paid paper hangings as per Chinese bills. | " | 44 95 |
| -"- | -"- | -"- bill for hardware. (Voucher "E") | " | 15 28 |
| -"- | -"- | -"- bill for hardware (Voucher "F") | " | 5 45 |
| -"- | -"- | -"- wall paper and freight. "G") | " | 43 01 |
| -"- | -"- | -"- -"- -"- -"- -"- "H"). | " | 150 43 |
| -"- | -"- | -"- -"- -"- -"- -"- "I"). | " | 68 97 |
| " | " | -"- -"- -"- -"- -"- "K"). | " | 59 28 |
| | | | $ | 1,509 21 |
| 1884. | | | | |
| Jan. | 1. | To balance forward. | $ | 164 74 |

Peking, May, 1st, 1884.

Despatch No. 433.
Enclosure.

# Statement of repairs to Legation premises for the years 1882. and 1883.

account for repairs.

to December, 31st 1883.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1882. | | | | Cr. |
| Jan. | 1. | By balance forward. | $ 144 | 47 |
| Dec. | 31. | -"- annual allowance for repairs as per lease, from July 1st, 1882 to June, 30th, 1883. | " 600 | 00 |
| 1883. | | | | |
| Dec. | 31 | -"- annual allowance for repairs as per lease, from July 1st, 1883 to June, 30th, 1884. | 600 | 00 |
| -"- | -"- | -"- balance forward. | 164 | 74 |
| | | | $ 1,509 | 21 |

E. & O. E.

S. Wells Williams
by his attorney in fact.
Chester Holcombe

# The United States Legation to Builder Li. "A".

82.

D.T.

| | | Tiaos. | Taels. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | masons. brought forward. | 26000 | |
| 16 | Day labourers. house furniture | 28800 | |
| 50 | catties lime. stoves and cables | 16200 | |
| 38 | —"— hemp. | 19000 | |
| 500 | Bricks. | 32500 | |
| 5½ | Carpenters. | 11300 | |
| 40 | nails. | 680 | |
| | Rebuilding | | |
| | Stables as per agreement. | | 100 — |
| | Wooden screen for garden. | | 3 50 |
| 6 | Carpenters. | 15600 | |
| 17 | Masons. | 44200 | |
| 22 | Day labourers. | 39600 | |
| | Tiles. | 31200 | |
| | Lime. | 29400 | |
| | Nemp. | 31500 | |
| 2 | Glass panes. | 4000 | |
| 1 | Cartload of Earth. | 13000 | |
| 2 | —"— —"— | 10000 | |
| 1 | Glass window. 4 iron rods and Stone. | | 5 50 |
| | Amount carried forward. | 359040 | 109 00 |

5

# The United States Legation to Builder Li.

Dr/-

| | | Taels. | Taels. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount brought forward. | 359 040 | 109 00 |
| | Painting gate house, Ministers house, office and stables. | 350 000 | |
| 18 | Carpenters. | 46 800 | |
| | Glue. | 2 000 | |
| 2 | Panes of Glass. | 11 000 | |
| 4 | Wood bars. | 3 200 | |
| | Iron nails. | 1 400 | |
| 2 | Brass wheels. | 8 620 | |
| | Iron nails. | 880 | |
| | Fish glue. | 4 000 | |
| | Horse troughs. | 21 000 | |
| | Iron nails. | 1 500 | |
| | Paint and oil. | 5 000 | |
| | Painting flagstaff & new rope. | 21 000 | |
| 2 | Doors. | 90 000 | |
| 1 | Iron ring. | 1 000 | |
| 1 | Iron latch for door. | 700 | |
| | Painting Cart house. | 35 000 | |
| 11 | Masons. | 28 600 | |
| 20 | Day labourers | 36 000 | |
| | Amount carried forward. | 1,026 720 | 109 00 |

# United States Depôt of Subsistence &c.

| | | Prices. | Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Received Quarterly Return. | | |
| | Receiving Depôt Horse Marines | | |
| | Horses, Offices and Stables. | | |
| 15 | Carpenters. | | |
| | Glass. | | |
| 2 | Panes of Glass. | | |
| 4 | Wood Work. | | |
| | Iron Work. | | |
| 2 | Brass Cocks. | | |
| | Iron Work. | | |
| | Sash Glass. | | |
| | Water Troughs. | | |
| | Iron Work. | | |
| | Paint Oil. | | |
| | Receiving Depôt Provisions. | | |
| 2 | Beef. | | |
| 1 | Iron Work. | | |
| | Iron Hoop. | | |
| | Receiving Depôt Horses. | | |
| 11 | Horses. | | |
| 20 | Hay Labourers. | | |
| | Received Quarterly Return. | | |

# United States Legation to Builder Li.

Dr.

| | | Tiaos. | | Taels. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount brought forward. | 1,026 | 720 | 109 | 00 |
| | Lime. | 40 | 500 | | |
| | Hemp. | 37 | 500 | | |
| | Bricks. | 7 | 500 | | |
| | Tiles. | 1 | 200 | | |
| | Bricks. | 4 | 200 | | |
| 22 | 1 Days work. | 1 | 800 | | |
| 7 | 2 Carpenters. | 5 | 200 | | |
| " | 2 Bricklayers. | 5 | 200 | | |
| " | Lime 30 catties. | | 900 | | |
| 25 | 2 Bricklayers. | 5 | 200 | | |
| | 3 " and 3 Assistants. | 13 | 200 | | |
| | 200 catties lime. | 6 | 400 | | |
| | 14 " lime. | 7 | 000 | | |
| | Tiaos. | 1,162 | 520 | Tls. 109 | 00 |

Tiaos 1162 $\frac{520}{m}$ @ 10 per $ average rate Mexican $ 116 25

Taels 109 $\frac{00}{m}$ @ 70 = " " 155 72

$ 271 97

E. & O. E.

Chester Holcombe

Peking, July 1st, 1882.

1882
July

# The United States Legation to Builder Li. "B."

| | | | Dr. Tiaos. | Tiaos. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2. | | | | |
| 24 | | 2 Carpenters | 5 200 | |
| " | | Lath and plaster 3 Rooms. | 1,016 400 | |
| 5 | | 8 Nails. | 800 | |
| " | | 30 -" | 480 | |
| " | | 40 -" | 480 | |
| 25 | | 1 Bricklayer and assistant. | 4 400 | |
| " | | 80 catties lime. | 2 420 | |
| " | | Tow 4 catties. | 2 000 | |
| " | | Tiles. 8. | 1 600 | |
| " | | -" 20 | 1 200 | |
| " | | Lath and plaster. | 476 000 | |
| 18 | | 2 Bricklayers & Assistants. | 7 000 | |
| | | Tow 5 catties. | 2 500 | |
| | | Mat large. | 2 500 | |
| | | 3 Carpenters. | 7 800 | |
| | | Glue 6 taels. | 3 000 | |
| | | Nails 30. | 360 | |
| | | Whitewashing. | 24 000 | |
| | | 6 Assistants. | 10 800 | |
| | | Tow 25 catties | 12 500 | |
| | | 5 Carpenters. | 13 000 | 1,594 740 |
| | | Amount carried forward. | 1,594 740 | 1,594 740 |

# Married Men's Section to Builder No.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

## The United States Legation to Builder Li.

| | | Dr. Taels. | Cash. | Taels. | Cash. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount brought forward. | 1,594 | 740 | 1,594 | 740 |
| 18. | 50 nails. | | 800 | | |
| " | 6 Uprights for ponies. | 24 | 000 | | |
| " | Lime 100 catties. | 3 | 400 | | |
| " | Rafters. 4. | 2 | 000 | | |
| 5 | 8 Bricklayers. | 20 | 800 | | |
| " | Lime 400 catties. | 13 | 600 | | |
| " | Sand. | 4 | 200 | | |
| " | Tiles. 15. | 3 | 000 | | |
| " | 2 Panes of glass. | 24 | 000 | | |
| " | Whitewashing. | 3 | 000 | | |
| " | 6 Iron pans & screws. | 13 | 800 | | |
| 12 | Repairing ceiling - plastering. | 352 | 800 | | |
| 13 | 1 Carpenter. | 2 | 600 | | |
| 15 | 1 - Do - 1/2 day. - | 1 | 300 | | |
| 23 | 1 Pane glass. | 4 | 000 | | |
| 27 | 2 Plasterers. | 6 | 000 | | |
| | 3 Panes of glass. | 7 | 800 | | |
| | Glue 2 taels. | 1 | 000 | | |
| | 3 Panes. | 5 | 100 | | |
| 28 | Carpenter 1 1/2 days. | 3 | 900 | 497 | 100 |
| | Amount carried forward. | 2,091 | 840 | 2,091 | 840 |

## United States Circuit Court of Appeals.

| | | Pages. | Pages. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Transcript brought forward. | 1,254 | 1,254 |
| 16. | 30 Deeds. | Blue | |
| " | 6 Warranty Deeds. | 24 | |
| " | Abstract 100 Counties. | 3 | |
| " | Map. | 1 | |
| " | Map. | 1 | |
| 3 | 8 Warranty Deeds. | 24 | |
| " | Abstract 100 Counties. | 13 | |
| " | Abstract. | 4 | |
| " | Deed. | 3 | |
| " | Title. 15. | 3 | |
| " | 2 Deeds & Plats. | 24 | |
| " | Abstract. | 3 | |
| " | 6 Warranty Deeds. | 13 | |
| 12 | Mortgage Building - Miscellaneous. | 352 | |
| 13 | 1 Abstract. | 2 | |
| 14 | 1 - do - 15 Deeds. | 1 | |
| 15 | 1 Abstract & Plats. | 4 | |
| 16 | 2 Mortgages. | 4 | |
| | 3 Deeds & Plats. | 7 | |
| | Plat & Deeds. | 1 | |
| | 3 Deeds. | 6 | |
| 18 | Abstract 15 Deeds. | 3 | 1,694 |
| | Transcript Continued Forward. | 1,694 | 1,694 |

# The United States Legation to Builder Li.

Dr.

| | | | Taels. | | Taels. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 82. | | Amount brought forward. | 2,091 | 840 | 2,091 | 840 |
| | 29. | Carpenter. | 2 | 600 | | |
| | 30 | 2 -Do- | 5 | 200 | | |
| | " | 2 Wooden poles. | 2 | 400 | | |
| | " | 2 Rafters. | 1 | 000 | | |
| | 1 | 1 Carpenter. | 2 | 600 | | |
| | 15 | Carpenter ½ day. | 1 | 300 | | |
| | " | Pane of glass. | 14 | 000 | | |
| | " | Wall compound. | 958 | 500 | | |
| | " | Boards. | 34 | 400 | | |
| | " | 30 Nails. | | 480 | | |
| | 29 | 2 Boards. | 32 | 000 | | |
| | 8. | 1 Carpenter. | 2 | 600 | | |
| | " | 1 Assistant. | 1 | 800 | | |
| | " | Lime 50 catties. | 1 | 500 | | |
| | " | Tow 3 — " | 1 | 500 | | |
| | " | Sand. | 1 | 120 | | |
| | 16 | 5 Carpenters. | 13 | 000 | | |
| | " | 70 Nails. | | 490 | | |
| | " | 1 Pane of glass. | 5 | 000 | | |
| | " | 50 Nails. | | 800 | 1,082 | 290 |
| | | Amount carried forward. | 3,174 | 130 | 3,174 | 130 |

## Detailed Statement of Expenditure.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Personal Emoluments. | | |
| Carpenter. | | |
| 2 Do. | | |
| 3 Do. | | |
| 2 Painter Lads. | | |
| 2 Plasterers. | | |
| 1 Do. | | |
| 1 Carpenter. | | |
| 2 Do. | | |
| Carpenter & Lad. | | |
| 1 Do. | | |
| Boy & Odds. | | |
| Total carried over. | | |
| Brought forward. | | |
| 30 Hours. | | |
| 2 Carpenters | | |
| 1 Carpenter | | |
| 1 Labourer | | |
| Labour 50 Hours. | | |
| Do. 3 — | | |
| Brought forward. | | |
| 5 Carpenters. | | |
| 40 Hours. | | |
| 1 Boy & Odds. | | |
| 30 Hours. | | |
| | | |
| Personal Emoluments. | | |

No. 4.

# The United States Legation to Builder Li.

D.T.

| | | Taels. | Taels. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Amount brought forward. | 3,174 130 | 3,174 130 |
| v. 16 | Nails 1 Catty. | 2 400 | |
| 25 | 10 Carpenters. | 26 000 | |
| " | Glue. | 1 920 | |
| " | Nails foreign. | 2 400 | 32 720 |
| | Taels. | 3,206 850 | 3,206 850 |

Taels 3,206 $\frac{850}{1000}$ @ 9 $\frac{500}{1000}$ average Mexican Dollars. $ 33756

E. & O. E.

Chester Holcombe

Peking, December, 31st, 1882.

# Treasurer's Office, Delaware, Ohio,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Treasurer's Duplicate Received | $ 3,176 [illegible] |
| 16 | Treasurer's Receipts | 2 [illegible] |
| 17 | Commissioners' | 26 [illegible] |
| " | Clerk | 1 [illegible] |
| " | Probate Judge | 2 [illegible] |
| | Total | $ 3,206 [illegible] |

Taxes $3,206 [illegible] per Treasurer's Duplicate [illegible] $ 3,176

— [illegible] —

Delaware, Ohio

February, December 31st, 1872

# The United States Legation to Builder Li. "C."

D.r.

| | Tiaos. | Tiaos. |
|---|---|---|
| To petty items. | 43 200 | |
| " Carpenter. | 1 300 | |
| " Mason and coolie. | 4 400 | |
| " 60 catties lime. | 1 800 | |
| " Nemp. | 500 | |
| " Repairs to hot bed. | 85 000 | |
| " Iron. | 2 000 | |
| " 1 Mason 7 coolies. | 15 200 | |
| " 150 catties lime. | 4 500 | |
| " Nemp. | 5 000 | |
| " 1 Mason 5 Coolies. | 11 600 | |
| " 1 Mason 4 " | 9 800 | |
| " 2 Irons & 8 screws. | 9 000 | |
| " 3 Panes of glass. | 11 000 | |
| " 1 Mason. | 2 600 | |
| " Carpenters. | 36 800 | |
| " glue. | 800 | |
| " Oil. | 2 240 | |
| " Arbor. | 260 000 | |
| " Panes of glass. | 4 000 | 510 740 |
| Amount carried forward. | 510 740 | 510 740 |

# Annual Return of Expenditure for Buildings &c.

| | Prices. | Prices. |
|---|---|---|
| For Public Offices. | | |
| " Courts of Law: | | |
| " Prisons and Gaols. | | |
| " for Police Force. | | |
| " Asylums. | | |
| " Expenses of Post Office. | | |
| " Ports. | | |
| " Prisons & Gaols. | | |
| " for Police Force. | | |
| " Asylums. | | |
| " Prisons & Gaols. | | |
| " 1 Prisons H — | | |
| " 2 Ports & Harbours | | |
| " 3 Asylums & others | | |
| " 4 Prisons. | | |
| " — Lunatic Asylums. | | |
| " Gaols. | | |
| " Gaol. | | |
| " — Ports. | | |
| " Asylums & others. | | |
| Amount Carried forward. | | |

# The United States Legation to Builder Li.

Dr.

| | Tiaos. | Tiaos. |
|---|---|---|
| Amount brought forward. | 510 740 | 510 740 |
| To Rope. | 3 000 | |
| " Glass. | 4 000 | |
| " Glass. | 3 200 | 10 800 |
| Tiaos. | 521 540 | 521 540 |

Tiaos 521 540/1000 @ 9.2, average rate. Mex $ 56 70

E & O. E.

Chester Holcombe

Pekin, June, 30th, 1883.

Mr. Edward Rees Agents to Burdon &c.

| | Pieces. | Pieces. |
|---|---|---|
| Measured Brandy Received | | |
| To Rates | | |
| " Clear | | |
| " Clear | | |
| Pieces | | |

Pieces 321 @ 2/6 per Measure Pieces

— E. & O. E. —

Solicitor

Mining Lane, 30th 1873.

# The United States Legation to Builder Li.

II

D.T.

| | | | Taels. | Dollars. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23. | | | | |
| July 1. | 2 Chien plastering ceiling 155×1·20 = 1·86 | | 260 | 400 |
| | 5 - 4 = - 4 - - 11 - | 1·92×1·2 = 2·304 | 322 | 560 |
| | | 5·5×7 = 3·15 | 44 | 100 |
| | 2 Chien. - do - | 2·12×1·2 = 2·544 | 356 | 160 |
| | 3 Masons. | | 7 | 800 |
| | 3 Coolies | | 5 | 400 |
| | 170 Catties lime. | | 1 | 180 |
| | 9 - 4 - hemp. | | 1 | 500 |
| | 3 - 4 - - 4 - Board. | | 4 | 200 |
| | 2 Irons. | | 4 | 600 |
| | 450 Bricks. | | 27 | 000 |
| | Carpenter. | | 1 | 300 |
| | 17 Masons. | | 44 | 200 |
| | 31 Coolies @ 1·800 | | 55 | 800 |
| | 2,090 Catties lime 6 20 | | 129 | 580 |
| | Hemp 126 Catties. | | 63 | 000 |
| | Tiles 230 | | 13 | 800 |
| | Bricks 1000 | | 80 | 000 |
| | Tiles 30 | | 3 | 000 |
| | Sprout. | | | 200 |
| | Dried brick. | | | 300 |
| | Amount carried forward. | | 1,433 | 680 |

# Planned Works Expenses & Building &c.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Pieces | Metres |
| 1 | 2 Chains Ploughing Carting Spreading 1.16 | | 200 Mtrs |
| | 5 " " " " " 1.90 x 1.2 = 2.28 | | 342 Mtrs |
| | | 5.2 x 2 = 3.12 | 444 Mtrs |
| | 2 Chains " &c " | 2.52 x 1.2 = 2.544 | 358 Mtrs |
| | 3 Masons | | 7 Mtrs |
| | 3 Bricks | | 2 Mtrs |
| | 150 Cubic Links | | 2 Mtrs |
| | 9 " Trench | | 4 Mtrs |
| | 3 " " " | | 4 Mtrs |
| | 2 Trees | | 11 Mtrs |
| | 1200 Bricks | | 27 Mtrs |
| | Carpenter | | 1 Mtrs |
| | 17 Masons | | 44 Mtrs |
| | 31 Bricks @ 1.80 | | 57 Mtrs |
| | 2000 Cubic Links @ | | 150 Mtrs |
| | Mason 126 Cubic | | 13 Mtrs |
| | Poles 130 | | 13 Mtrs |
| | Trench 1000 | | 80 Mtrs |
| | Poles 30 | | 3 Mtrs |
| | Wood | | 2 Mtrs |
| | Brick Work | | 3 Mtrs |
| | | | |
| | Amount Carried forward | | 1,413 Mtrs |

# The United States Legation to Builder Li.

Dr./

| | Tiaos. | Dollars. |
|---|---|---|
| Amount brought forward. | 1,433 680 | |
| To 1 Carpenter. | 2 600 | |
| " 3 panes of glass. | 9 000 | |
| " putty. | 2 000 | |
| " 2 Carpenters. | 5 200 | |
| " Lath & plaster guest house | 525 000 | |
| " " " " bath room. | 112 000 | |
| " 6 Carpenters. | 15 600 | |
| " Nails and 1 Board. | 2 600 | |
| " oiling floors. | - - | 5 " |
| " " " mop boards. | - - | 1 " |
| " Stove frame. | 4 000 | |
| " 2 poles. | 7 000 | |
| " 4 long spikes. | 2 800 | |
| " 2 large screws. | - 400 | |
| " 2 hinges. | 800 | |
| " 12 masons 31.2 10 coolies 18.000 | 49 200 | |
| " line 12.400 hemp 7.500 | 19 900 | |
| " clay 4.960 1 Stove iron 1.500 30 bricks. 2.800 | 9 260 | |
| " painting office. | 28 000 | |
| " 4 Strips leather. | 800 | |
| Amount carried forward. | 2,229 840 | $ 6 00 |

1883
July

# Illustrated Stock Catalogue of Builders Co.

| | Price | No Sold |
|---|---|---|
| Previously Invoiced Amounted | 1,423,960 | |
| 60 Bookcases: | 2,400 | |
| " 3 doors & glass | 9,000 | |
| " Lining | 6,000 | |
| " 2 Counters | 5,200 | |
| " Cash & Waste Paper Boxes | 632,000 | |
| " " " " Book Rests | 11,200 | |
| " 6 Counters | 18,000 | |
| " Inside and Front | 2,000 | |
| " Sliding Doors | | |
| " " " Fruit Covers | | |
| " Store Fronts | 14,000 | |
| " 2 Safes | 4,000 | |
| " 4 Long Stools | 2,000 | |
| " 2 Large Counters | | |
| " 2 Mantles | | |
| " 12 Drawers 10 Cubics | 18,000 | |
| " Store Fronts | 3,200 | |
| " Store Fronts | 2,000 | |
| " Office 1 Store Fronts 30 Inserts | 4,000 | |
| " Counting Office | 12,000 | |
| " 4 Office Counters | 800 | |
| Previously Invoiced Amounted | 2,329,800 | 0,00 |

No. 3.

## The United States Legation to Builder Li.

| | Dr. Taels. | Dollars. |
|---|---|---|
| To amount brought forward. | 2,229 840 | 6 00 |
| " 20 masons 21 coolies (52.000 37.500) | 89 800 | |
| " 500 bricks 400 catties lime 25 cats hemp. (40,000 20,000 12,500) | 72 500 | |
| " 1 Mat Straw 3 boards. (5000 1400 6,600) | 16 000 | |
| " 3 panes of glass 4 boards (15,000 9,200) | 27 200 | |
| " 2 Boards. | 3 500 | |
| " lath & plaster guest house. | 585 000 | |
| " water closet door. | 10 000 | |
| " 4 cats sand 1 Stove plate 13 panes glass. (6.400 2,500 28,600) | 37 500 | |
| " putty (2,000) carpenters. (19,100) | 21 500 | |
| Taels. | 3,092 840 | $ 6 00 |
| Taels 3,092.840 @ 8.- average rate | Mex. | $ 386 01 |
| | Mexican | $ 392 01 |

E & O. E.

Chester Holcombe

Peking, December, 31st, 1883.

Bough

March 1

"E"

Duplicate

Shanghai May 31st 1880

United States Legation

Peking

ught of China & Japan Trading Company Limited.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 19 | 1/2 Doz Mortise Locks 6 1/2 | @ | 10 - | | | 5 - |
| | 1/2 Doz Mineral Knobs | @ | 2.50 | | | 1 25 |
| | 3 Bell Cells | @ | 1.50 | | | 4 50 |
| | 1 Funnel | | | | | 1 " |
| | 1 Doz Bell Cranks | | | | | 1 50 |
| | 1/4 " " " | @ | 2.50 | | | " 63 |
| | 1 Hammer | | | | | " 75 |
| | 1 Gross 7/8 Iron Screws | | | | | " 40 |
| | 1 -"- 3/8 -"- | | | | | " 25 |
| | | | | | $ | 16.28 |

E. & O. E.

Received payment

CHINA AND JAPAN TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.

PER J. M. Jensen

a/c

Peking 1st May. 1882.

Ch. Holcombe. Esqr.

Dbt to P. Kierulff.

| | | $ | c |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1841. Nov. | Screws. 35 ct. Nails 25 | | 60. |
| | do & Hinges. - - - | 1 | 35. |
| | 1 Lock 1 in 12 1 Lock 75 ct | 1 | 75. |
| 1882 April | Hinges. - - - - - | 1 | 75. |
| | | $ 5 | 45 ct. |

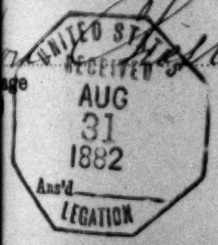
Received payment
P. Kierulff

"G"

To avoid mistakes, send samples when you order.

Boston, Feb 27 1882

Hester Holcombe Legation of the United States Peking China




# Bought of J. H. Robinson & Co.,

**Successors to GREGORY & ROBINSON,**

IMPORTERS, JOBBERS, AND RETAILERS OF

## FRENCH AND AMERICAN PAPER HANGINGS,

Terms: Cash without discount. No. 406 WASHINGTON STREET.

J. H. ROBINSON.
C. H. WHITMARSH.
C. W. ROBINSON.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 6 Yds Facing | | 75 | 450 | | |
| B | 30 " Bor | | 8 | 240 | | |
| C | 10 " | | 15 | 150 | | |
| D | 30 " " | | 100 | 30 | | |
| E | 56 " | | 10 | 560 | | |
| F | 4 pr Paper | | 60 | 240 | | |
| | 108 Yds Border | | 8 | 864 | 5504 | |
| | | 10 p/c dis | | | 550 | |
| | | | | | 4954 | |
| | $449 54/100 @ 882 | | | | $ 8617 | |

Mex $

Paul Mason 2/82

J H C Robinson & Co

Freight on above Boston to Peking $ 1684

$ 7301

4461

SUCCESSOR TO
GREGORY & ROBINSON, AND J. H. ROBINSON & CO.

"H"

Boston, May 29 1883

United States Legation at Peking

BOSTON AGENT
PATENT
GLACIER
WINDOW
DECORATIONS."
The Most Perfect Substitute for Stained Glass.
T'Caw, Stevenson & Orr, Manuf'rs.

# Bought of Charles W. Robinson,

IMPORTER, JOBBER, AND RETAILER OF

## Foreign and American Paper Hangings,

Terms: Cash without discount.

No. 406 WASHINGTON ST.

C. W. ROBINSON.
BENJ. SNOW,
W. L. GREENE.
Special.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1138 88 | 36 Rs | Paper | 90 | 3240 | |
| 1514 P | 30 Yds | Frieze | 80 | 24 | |
| P | 3 Rs | Velvet | 300 | 900 | |
| | 84 ft | Frieze | 6 | 504 | |
| | 80 " | Gothic | 6 | 480 | |
| | 28 Yds | Border | 8 | 224 | |
| P C | 6 Rs | Fl & Paper Slant | 75 | 450 | |
| 2591 | 5 " | Centre | " | 375 | |
| | 62 Yds | Border | 12½ | 775 | |
| 5757 | 5 Rs | Paper Ceilg | 150 | 750 | |
| | 64 Yds | Border | 10 | 640 | |
| | 64 " | " | 5 | 320 | |
| 34½ | 12 Rs | Paper " | 75 | 9 — | 11958 |
| | 28 Yds | Border | 12½ | | 350 |
| | | | | | 12308 |
| | | 10% dis | | | 1230 |
| | | | | | 11078 |
| | $110.78 | 882 | Net $ | | 125 60 |

Paid June 13/83

by L. L. Ward Treas

Charles W. Robinson

Duplicate

Freight & Insurance Boston to Peking. Net. $ $ 24 83

No. 1.

Peking 1st July 1883.

To The U.S. Legation

# DBT TO P. KIERULFF.

| | | | $ | C. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| July 7 | 15 Rolls | Wallpaper 65¢ | 9 | 75 |
| | 1 " | Border | 2 | |
| 31 | 18 " | Wallpaper 75¢ | 13 | 50 |
| | 3 " | Border 2.50 | 7 | 50. |
| Aug 1 | 14 " | Wallpaper 65¢ | 9 | 10. |
| | 20 " | do 60¢ | 12 | |
| 5 | 12 " | do 60¢ | 7 | 20 |
| 6 | 4 " | do 60¢ | 2 | 40. |
| | 46 | Cornerpieces 12¢ | 5 | 52 |
| | | | $ 68 | 97 |

Received
P. Kierulff

Oct

K"

Peking 1st Decbr 1883.

To The U. S. Legation.

# DBT TO P. KIERULFF.

| | | $ | C. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | Piece Paper, @ 75¢ | 15 | |
| 3 | " Border, " 2.00 | 6 | |
| 32 | " Paper " 75¢ | 24 | |
| 18 | " " " 65¢ | 11 | 40. |
| | Borders. | 2 | 88. |
| | | $ 59 | 28. |

Received
P. Kierulff

Mr Edwards

No. 434. Four Enclosures.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 1 1884
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 9th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Case of St J. H. Edwards of Amoy.

Synopsis.

Forwards copies of certain papers which have passed between the Legation and the British Minister in regard to action taken by the British Consul at Amoy.

No. 434. Four Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 9th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I enclose for your information copies of a correspondence between this Legation and Her Britannic Majesty's Minister, Sir Harry S. Parkes. 1./ 2./ 3./ 434. 4./

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[signature]

Enclosures.

7

## Enclosures.

1. Mr. Young to Sir Harry Parkes.
   17/1884. March 18th, 1884.
2. Sir Harry Parkes to Mr. Young.
   32/1884. March 21st, 1884.
3. Sir Harry Parkes to Mr. Young.
   112/1884. April 19th, 1884.
4. Mr. Young to Sir Harry Parkes.
   31/1884. April 25th, 1884.

Despatch No. 434.
Enclosure 1.

1/1884.

Mr Young to Sir Harry S. Parkes.

March, 18th, 1884.

Sir and dear Colleague,

I received last Evening a despatch from the American Consul at Amoy, Mr Goldsborough, in which the Legation is informed that Mr Forrest U.S. Consul at that port, had addressed a letter to the Chinese Authorities making certain complaints against St. Julian Hugh Edwards an American citizen resident in Amoy. In these complaints, so far as I can gather, Mr Edwards is charged with opium smuggling and gambling.

May I beg to ask whether H.E. has any information as to the action of U.S. Consul? The American Government has established a tribunal in Amoy for the punishment of all American citizens who fail to obey the treaty and the laws. The protection of citizens who are not in peril of the laws, or who

who have not been charged with offences is also the duty of the Consuls who presides over this tribunal. It seems incredible that H.B.M's Consul should have asked the intervention of the Chinese Authorities in a case where under the treaties, the laws of China have no authority.

In making this communication I renew to H.E. the assurances of my most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Despatch No. 434.
Enclosure 2.

No 32/1884.

Sir Harry Parkes to Mr Young.

Peking, March, 21st, 1884.

Sir and dear Colleague.

I have the honour to acknowledge your note of the 18th instant informing me that you had heard from Mr Goldsborough the U. S. Consul at Amoy that Mr Forrest, Her Britannic M's Consul at that Port, had addressed a letter to the Chinese local Authorities containing certain charges against St Julian Hugh Edwards, an American Citizen, and enquiring whether I had received any information from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul as to this reported action on his part.

In reply I beg to observe that my information on this subject is at present limited to a despatch from Mr Forrest dated the 7th ultimo in which he reported that

Edwards'

Edwards' proceedings as a Smuggler were becoming so bold and notorious that he feared they would lead to dangerous results. He added that Edwards was in the habit of assuming whatever nationality best suited his purpose, but that as you had decided that he was an American Citizen, he, Mr. Forrest, had informed the Taotai that he could entertain no claim against Edwards for British interference.

As this Despatch shews that Mr. Forrest is aware that Edwards is recognized by you as an American Citizen, I cannot suppose that he has made any communication to the Chinese Authorities which would imply a doubt as to his being amenable to the jurisdiction of the United States. A charge of Smuggling or of Keeping gambling dens, if preferred against an American Citizen would properly be laid by the Chinese Authorities in the

the United States Consular Court, though it would obviously be competent for any one whether in an official or a private position to furnish those authorities with information which would enable them to prosecute such a charge.

I have instructed Mr. Forrest to furnish me with complete information as to the nature of the communications which he is said to have addressed to the Chinese Authorities respecting Edwards, and I shall not fail to communicate this information to you as soon as I receive it.

I beg you to accept my dear Colleague the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Harry S. Parkes.

Despatch No. 434.
Enclosure 3.

No. 42/1884.

Sir Harry S. Parkes to Mr. Young.

Shanghai, April, 10th, 1884.

Sir and dear Colleague.

With reference to our previous correspondence relative to Her Majesty's Consul at Amoy having addressed the Chinese Authorities at that Port on the subject of the United States citizen Edwards, I now beg to forward to you a copy of a Despatch I have received from Her Majesty's Consul there (April 5th.) stating that his sole object in making that communication was to explicitly declare to those Authorities that there is no ground for the assertion made by Edwards, in which he is supported by the United States Consul, that he is a British subject, and consequently that the British Consul could exercise no control over him or check him in his career of illegal conduct.

Pray

Pray accept, my dear Colleague, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Harry S. Parkes.

Nature of correspondence with the Chinese Authorities on the subject of Edwards. —

—

Mr. Forrest to Sir Harry S. Parkes.

—

Amoy, 5th April, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to — acknowledge receipt of your — despatch, No 8 of 21st March, last, with its enclosures embodying a complaint on the part of the United States Minister that I had addressed a letter to the Taotai containing charges against one Edwards, a citizen of the United States, in such terms as would imply a doubt that Edwards was amenable to the jurisdiction of the United States Consul.

I think the explanation I am about to make will not only justify me for having written that letter,

but

but will shew that no other course was open to me.

Mr. Goldsborough, the United States Consul here, the guardian and administrator of the tribunal, of which the Honourable Mr. Young speaks, - for the punishment of all american citizens who fail to obey the Treaty and the Laws, emphatically and without reservation declines to admit that Edwards is an American citizen, and maintains that he is and must be a British Subject.

He informs me that he has written a complete refutation of Edwards' claim to be recognized as an American to the Department of State, and that until he receives an answer from that Department he will not recognise Edwards.

Whenever claims have been made against Edwards the Complainants, as in the case of Vanderberg, are met with the same reply; that Edwards

is

is a British subject over whom the United States Consul has no jurisdiction. Mr. Goldsborough has frequently referred to the despatches he has received from his minister concerning Edwards but declines to be bound by them.

Edwards conducts his operations on the mainland and his other practices of which I have complained not as an American citizen, but as an officer from Singapore and consequently a British subject. (Vide Mr. Potter's memorandum, enclosure in my despatch No. 1 of 7th February last to the Legation)

Since my arrival here, three years since, I have always declined to recognize Edwards as a British subject, and Mr. Goldsborough has equally refused to admit him to American citizenship. He has thus stood in the peculiar

peculiar position of being beyond the reach of any foreign laws.

When Mr. Goldsborough recently dismissed Edwards from his employment in the United States Consulate, he wrote to the Taotai and, having accused Edwards of offences — precisely the same as those — afterwards indicated by me, stated that the United States Consulate had nothing further to do with him. I have not seen this despatch but in it, if the Consul did not assert that Edwards was a British subject, he certainly did not inform the Taotai that he was an American citizen. Mr. Goldsborough is the United States international agent here and his persistent refusal up to this moment to acknowledge Edwards as any but a British subject has led the Chinese to take the same view. When therefore Edwards was dismissed from the

the United States Consulate and became liberated from the slightest control, it was not my duty to refrain from informing the native authorities that, his assertions notwithstanding, he was not a British subject. I did this, not as against a citizen of the United States, but as against a man the United States Consul most emphatically refuses to recognize and who asserts himself to be a British subject and officer when the occasion suits. I have not in any way asked for the intervention of the Chinese authorities but have merely drawn their attention to the fact that Edwards is a citizen of the United States and not, what he and his Consul maintain, a British subject.

I had the honour to enclose copy of my letter to the Taotai, to which this explanation refers,

in

in my despatch No. 5. of the 20th ultimo.

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. J. Forrest
Consul.

Despatch No. 434.
Enclosure 4.

No. 31/1884.

Mr. Young to Sir Harry S. Parkes.

---

Canton, April, 25th, 1884.

Sir and dear Colleague,

I have the honour to acknowledge with my best thanks your letter, dated April, 19th, 1884, in which you inclose, for the information of this Legation, a copy of a despatch from H. B. M's Consul at Amoy.

In order that H. E. may have a complete knowledge of the status of Mr Edwards, I beg to Enclose an Extract from a despatch addressed by the Legation to our Consul at Amoy. Likewise an Extract from a despatch received from the Honourable Secretary of State. - From this you will see that the Legation after due consideration was compelled to accept Mr Edwards as an American Citizen, under

under the protection of our flag and amenable to our laws, and that this judgment has been affirmed by the United States Government.

Such being the case, if Mr. Edwards commits an offence against the treaties or the laws of the United States, he can be tried and punished by the Consular Court of Amoy. And any act on the part of A.B. M's Consul that led to the fulfilment of justice in his case, or that of any American citizen would be accepted by this Legation as a most friendly office. My Government could not view without much concern a complaint or an accusation against an American citizen addressed to the Chinese authorities. These officials, as Y.E. is well aware, have no control over the persons and property of our citizens. My letter of the 18th March, was written under the

apprehension

apprehension based upon
information from Envoy, that H.
B. M's Consul had made such an
accusation. I am gratified to
know, therefore, that the
apprehension was unfounded -
and that I can say to Mr Edwards
that his averment to the contrary
was based upon imperfect
information

I regret very much to have
had to trouble H. E. on this subject.
But this regret is tempered by my
appreciation of the prompt courtesy
with which you have considered
my representations.

In the meantime, dear
Colleague, accept the assurances
of my highest consideration.

Have &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Mr Edwards
&
Dr St Clair

No. 435. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 12th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 1 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Consular premises at Amoy.

Synopsis.

Transmits copy of a letter from J. A. Edwards upon this subject.

No. 435. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 12th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:-

I have the honor to forward a letter from Mr. St J. H. Edwards, of Amoy, in reference to the rent of the consular premises recently occupied by Mr. Goldsborough. This I do at the request of Mr. Edwards. 1/435.

I have sent a copy to Mr. Goldsborough, in order that he may make his own statement of facts

to

to the Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Lamb Eaton

Enclosure.

1. Insr. Edwards to Insr. Young
43/1884. April 9th, 1884.

Despatch No. 435.
Enclosure.

No. 43.

Mr. Edwards to Mr. Young.

Amoy, 9th April, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to apprise you that on the 31st ultimo, while sick on my bed I was verbally notified by the U.S. Consul, through his acting Clerk and Marshal, that he would vacate the house and premises at present used as the U.S. Consulate on the 30th of the present month, thus giving me one month's notice.

According to Law, a tenancy at will, or from year to year, may lawfully be dissolved by a notice, in writing.

In absence of express stipulation, local custom, or statute law, if a tenant hold his land or house etc., from year to year expressly, or impliedly, either the landlord or

the

the tenant may determine the tenancy by giving a half year's notice to quit.

The same where a tenancy from year to year is implied by law, or from the payment of rent, or the like. If the tenancy, be from half year to half year, half year's notice to quit must be given; if from quarter to quarter, a quarter's notice; if from month to month, a month's notice, &c. &c. &c.

Whereas my house and premises were leased to the United States Government since 1878 and as I collected rent from the Government under instructions from Department of State in 1879, after end of every quarter, I think I am entitled to six months notice instead of the one month, as above noted.

I have therefore, the honour to request Your Excellency to be good enough

enough to bring the above facts to the notice of the U. S. Government and to state at the same time that the said Consul quits the premises of his own accord to satisfy his wrath against me and suit his convenience and as the expenses to be incurred in removing and replacing the flagstaff etc., will generally aggregate to about One hundred (100 $) dollars. I think the same should be defrayed by the Consul and not by the U.S. Government.

With great consideration
I have &c
(Signed) Sh. J. N. Edwards.

No. 3.

# CABLE MESSAGE.

## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

All CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company, and subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 18 18
RECEIVED

| NUMBER | SENT BY | REC'D BY | No. OF WORDS |
|---|---|---|---|
| 499 | Hn | Fa | 114 |

Received at Washington DC

To Frelinghuysen

Washington

All despatches received attended to. Hope return Peking June 10

Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 436.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 22nd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Customs Reports.

Synopsis.

Forwards, under separate cover, three copies of Customs Gazette for January – March, 1884.

No. 436.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 22nd, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith, under separate cover, three copies of "Customs Gazette, Nos. "LXI., January-March, 1884." as published by order of the Chinese Maritime & Customs.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Wm Edwards

No. 437.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 24th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject:

Customs Trade Reports.

Synopsis.

Sends three copies of above reports for 1883. under a separate cover.

No. 437.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May 24th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith, under separate cover, three copies of "Returns of Trade at the Treaty Ports and Trade Reports for the year 1883." as published by the Chinese Maritime Customs.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Lincoln Courtney

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 438.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 26th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Consular premises at Shanghai.

Synopsis.

Department instruction number 227. received. Refers to despatch number 397. Will investigate further.

No. 438.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, May, 26th, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch, No. 227, dated February, 8th, 1884, in which you confirm your cable, dated, February, 25th, 1884.

The Department will have learned from my despatch, No. 397. dated March 27th, all the information in the possession of

of the Legation concerning the Consular Buildings in Shanghai. I hope however, in the course of my tour of inspection to reach Shanghai in a few days and shall make special enquiry as to whether it is possible to obtain suitable premises at cheaper rent. I do not anticipate, however, that the result of such enquiry will be more satisfactory than what formed the body of the despatch to which I refer.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Thos. Kinnear Gurney

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Filed by mo Files

No. 439.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 26th, 1884.

John Russell Young
to
the Secretary of State

Subject.

Opium legislation by Congress.

Synopsis.

Department instruction number 236 received, and read with great interest. No further suggestions to make.

No. 439.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May, 26th, 1884.

To,
The Honorable.
Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No. 236, dated, March, 19th, 1884 in which you enclose a correspondence between the Department and the Chairman of the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations in reference to legislation by Congress looking

to

to the suppression of the Opium traffic.

I have read with much interest the views expressed by the distinguished Senator from California and your reply. I can think of no suggestion in addition to what has already been submitted to you by the Legation which would tend to strengthen our legislation. It is a source of gratification, however, to feel, that having made a treaty with China in which we concede the right of His Majesty to restrain and, in course of time to destroy the Opium trade, the Government is disposed to enact

enact measures which will enable our Consular Courts to carry out the stipulation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Thomas Gray

Dispatches
No. 234
Dec 26 1884 Sept 13

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

W. Edwards

U.S. Legation of the United States.
Peking, May 26th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Henny's charges against Mr. Holcombe.

Synopsis.

Instruction number 234. received, gratification at decision. Requests copy of Mr. Young's letter of December 26th, 1884. for the files of the Legation.

No. 440.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, May. 26th., 1884.

To the,
Honourable Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No. 234 dated. March. 11th., 1884 in reference to my unofficial and confidential letter bearing date of December, 26th., 1883. I note also your direction that I shall restore the correspondence between Mr. Holcombe and the late Consul General to the Archives of the Legation.

As

As I retained no copy of my letter to you and which should appear in our records as No. 266 I shall thank the Department to send me one which will be made a part of the records.

I have to express my satisfaction with the judgment of the Department. The question between these two gentlemen gave me much anxiety and I would gladly have reserved the decision of it here and not imposed such a duty upon you. This was seen in my withdrawing the whole subject from our records. And although it is deemed best to restore it, I am gratified to learn

learn that my motives in taking what I appreciated as an unusual responsibility have met with due recognition.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

Robert Cavendish Spencer

No. 3.

# CABLE MESSAGE.

## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

All CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company for that purpose, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager. NORVIN GREEN, President.

RECEIVED MAY 27 1884

| NUMBER | SENT | No. OF WORDS | FROM |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | 15 | Shanghai |

Received at Wabh 1357 May 27 1884.

To Frelinghuysen Washington

James renews offer pay principal Hill Claim declining your proposition.

Young

No. 3.

# CABLE MESSAGE.

## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

All CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company for that purpose, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager. NORVIN GREEN, President.

| NUMBER | SENT BY | REC'D BY | No. OF WORDS | FROM |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 432 Ny | hn | R | 12 | Shanghai |

Received at 1246 pm May 30. 1884

To Pelin Heingsen. Washington

Have telegraphed Peking making proposal as

directed.

Young.

Sent by mail

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 441.

W. Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 2nd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions.

Synopsis.

Department instructions numbers 226. to 256. inclusive, and telegram dated May 26th, have been received.

No. 441.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 2nd, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have had the honor to receive your instructions bearing numbers and dates as follows:—

Number 226. of February 20th,

Number 227. of February 28th,

Number 228. of February 29th,

Number 229. of March 4th,

Number 230. of March 7th,

Number 231. of March 9th,

Number 232. of March 11th,

Number 233. of March 11th,

Number

Number 234. of March 11th,
Number 235. of March 17th,
Number 236. of March 19th,
Number 237. of March 19th,
Number 238. of March 19th,
Number 239. of March 21st,
Number 240. of March 21st,
Number 241. of March 22nd,
Number 242. of March 27th,
Number 243. of March 28th,
Number 244. of April 2nd,
Number 245. of April 3rd,
Number 246. of April 3rd,
Number 247. of April 5th,
Number 248. of April 5th,
Number 249. of April 5th,
Number 250. of April 5th,
Number 251. of April 5th,
Number 252. of April 5th,

Number

Number 253. of April 5th,
Number 254. of April 5th,
Number 255. of April 5th,
Number 256. of April 5th,

Your telegraphic instruction dated May 26th, has also been received, reading as follows:—

"Treasury decides that
"Chinese essential to
"display of exhibit at
"New Orleans may land
"remain unmolested
"and return at proper
"time information
"desired of probable
"number and port of
"entry.

The substance of

this

this instruction has been communicated to the Chinese Foreign Office.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

Acd by mail

No 442.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 2nd, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Matters between France and China.

Synopsis.

Department Instruction number 239. has attentive consideration. Will report on further aspects of these questions.

No. 1112.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June, 2nd, 1884.

To the,
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No. 239 dated March, 21st, 1884, and to express my thanks for your full expression of the views of the Department in reference to affairs between China and France. I am in hopes that negotiations

negotiations in Paris between the Representatives of China and France may lead to a result which will dispel any present anxiety as to the security of foreign interests in China and remove the apprehension as to hostile relations between the two countries which have disturbed foreign interests here for the past two years.

Should this hope not be gratified it will be of great value to the Legation to know, as you have so fully expressed them, the views of the Government.

I confine myself to a simple

simple acknowledgement of your instruction because further information from the Foreign Office as to the condition of pending negotiations may render it necessary for me to write you more in detail. In the absence of that information any opinion I might express would be entirely within the range of speculation, and as events are crowding upon each other with such rapidity, would be of questionable value.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Jas. Russell Lowell

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Wm Edwards

No. 443.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 2nd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Department instruction No. 235.

Synopsis.

This instruction has been read with care and a copy communicated to Admiral Davis.

No 1443.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June, 2nd, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No 235. dated, March, 17th, 1884.

I have read with care the correspondence between Her Britannic Majesty's Minister and the Department and in the interest of the public service

Service have communicated
copies of it to Rear Admiral
Davis, commanding our
Squadron on the Asiatic
Station.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Thos. Russell Sonny.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 444.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 2nd, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinese immigration.

Synopsis.

Department instruction
number 240. with enclosures
has been carefully noted.

No 444.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June, 2nd, 1884.

To the,
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to
acknowledge the receipt of
your instruction No 240
dated, March, 24th, 1884,
enclosing a correspondence with
His Excellency the Minister for
China and the Department of
the Treasury in reference to the
Chinese Emigration to the United
States.

States. I have taken due note of the instruction of the Honourable Secretary of the Treasury and of the position which the Government has assumed in the execution of the provisions of the treaty.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Rivas Mc Lemp

Ack. by no. 1766

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Edwards

No. 1445. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 3th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Claim of Mr. Hill.

Synopsis.

Acknowledges receipt of Department instruction number 238. and states action taken under it.

No: 445. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June, 3rd, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

Your instruction No: 238, dated March, 19th, 1884. reached me at Amoy on the 14th May, while on my tour of inspection. I read it with care and not wishing to delay the settlement of Mr: Hill's claim until my return to the capital I immediately telegraphed in cypher, an instruction, a

copy

1/445. copy of which I enclose. I
trust to be able to inform you
upon reaching Shanghai of
the result of Mr. Holcombe's
negotiations. How far recent
personal changes in the
Yamên may affect the temper
of the Cabinet regarding his
claim, it will be impossible
for me to say until I reach
Peking or have further advices
from there. It is a source of
gratification to me to know that
the efforts of the Legation to
adjust this claim meet with
the high approval expressed
in your instruction. The fact
that it has been so many

years

years at issue between the Legation and the Yamên makes it, as it were, an obstacle in the way of complete friendly relations on which I have been especially anxious to remove and I need not assure the Department that I shall use my best efforts, either before my arrival in Peking through the Legation or personally thereafter to effect the settlement upon the terms of the memorandum enclosed in your instruction.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Enclosure.

# Enclosure.

1. Copy of telegram. -

Despatch No. 445,
Inclosure.

Cypher Telegram

Translation:-

Amoy, 14th May, 1884.

Holcombe -

Peking.

State Department proposes settlement Hills' claim principal fifty four thousand interest five per cent make demand Yamên urgently and telegraph answer Shanghai in event refusal do not let demand prejudice integrity claim present form.

Gurney.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

dis Edwards

No. 446.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 3rd, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Missionary outrages at Shuklung.

Synopsis.

In response to Department instruction number 248.
A report will be made at an early moment.

No. 446.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June, 3rd, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No. 248 dated April, 5th, 1884 and to say that as the question therein referred to, namely, the outrages on missionaries near Shekung formed the subject of an earnest personal conversation between the

the Viceroy at Canton and myself at His Excellency's Yamên, during my recent visit, it will be my duty to make a report to you in a further despatch.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Geo. Bonham

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 447.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 3rd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Tientsin wharfage dues.

Synopsis.

In response to Department instruction number 232. states that question will be taken upon our return to Peking.

No. 447.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June, 3rd, 1884.

To the,
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to
acknowledge the receipt of
your instruction No. 232 dated.
March, 11th., 1884 enclosing a
despatch from the Honourable
Mr. Morton our Minister at
Paris in reference to the wharfage
dues at Tientsin. I had a
conversation with Sir Harry
Parkes

Parkes, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister on this subject the day before I left Peking, and as my colleague was leaving on the next day for Corea we agreed to take up the subject upon our return to the capital. Sir Harry said that he had no doubt that we could reach an agreement entirely satisfactory to all parties and it is unnecessary for me to express the hope that the result of our negotiations will justify that anticipation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Earl Russell &c &c &c

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Acknowledged no date

Wm Edwards

No. 448. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 3rd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Market value of ginseng in China.

Synopsis.

In response to Department instruction number 241. has issued a circular copy of which is enclosed.

No. 448. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June, 3rd, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction No. 241, dated, March, 22nd, 1884 in reference to the general market value of the prepared ginseng root in China and the principal use made of it by the Chinese, and your instruction to ascertain and

make

make a report upon the question
thereon presented. I have as
you will see by Enclosure, in
1/448. addressed to the Consuls a
circular letter asking for the
information requested by the
Honourable Mr. Morey. The
result of this enquiry I will
send to the Department.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Enclosure.

1. Copy of Circular letter.

Despatch No. 448.
Enclosure.

Mr. Young to Mr. Chesbire. –

No. 142. June, 3rd, 1884.

Sir,

I am instructed by the Department of State to ascertain the general market value of prepared ginseng root in China, the principal use made of it, and any facts bearing upon the internal trade in that article. –

You will therefore please furnish me at your early convenience with all the information bearing upon this subject which may be within your reach, and, in particular, upon the following points: –

1st As to the supply and demand.

2nd The difference between the cultivated and the wild roots as to market value and demand – and,

3rd How the demand for the wild American

American roots compares with
the wild native roots in the
markets of China.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED

Ret by mail to file

No. 449.

Wm Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 3rd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Leave to visit Japan.

Synopsis.

Thanks Department for leave given in instruction number 226., but will not avail of it at present.

No. 449.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June, 3rd, 1884.

To the,
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I beg to express my thanks for the instruction No. 226 dated, February, 20th, 1884., in which I am granted permission to visit Japan on a leave of absence of sixty days. I should be glad - for private and, I may venture to say, for public reasons to - avail myself of this privilege, but

but on reflection considering the political complications and the fact that I have been absent on a tour of duty I shall reserve for another season the advantage of this trip.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Rowell Ewing.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

Rec'd by mail

No. 450. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 4th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Young's visit to Foochow.

Synopsis.

Covers copies of correspondence with Mr. Cowingate upon this subject.

No. 450. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 4th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of a correspondence had with Hon. Consul Mingate in regard to my recent visit to Foochow. # 1/450. 2/450.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosures.

## Enclosures.

1. Insr. Irvingate to Insr. Young
   No. 85. May 23rd, 1884.
2. Insr. Young in response.
   No. 55 June 3rd, 1884.

Despatch No. 450.

Enclosure 1.

No. 85.

Mr. Ningate to Mr. Young.

May, 23rd, 1884.

Sir,

Referring to the visit of inspection which you have just made to this Consulate, and to the honour you have done me by becoming my guest for several days, I desire to record my estimation of the value of the visit and my appreciation of the personal intercourse which I have enjoyed.

I should have been much pleased if your visit had resulted in an immediate settlement of the Sites-Yenping case. But since it was evident from the reply of H.E. the Viceroy to your suggestion in regard to the same, that a continuance of the subject would have resulted in a discussion of

petty

petty matters with which the Legation is familiar already, and upon which you had no time to waste, I can but think that your remark to the Viceroy that my entire action had the approval of the Legation and of the Government, and that you hoped that the Taot'ai and I could close the case in accordance with the agreement already made between the Legation and the Tsungli yamên, was a desirable ending of the talk upon which the Viceroy was about to enter.

I cannot hope for any immediate, general beneficial results from your visit, but the fact that your call upon the Viceroy and his return call upon you was the immediate occasion of the Viceroy's calling upon the Consuls must be noted as of great importance, and as likely

likely to be of lasting benefit in connection with foreign relations at this port.

The visit of H. E. and Rear Admiral Davis will always be marked as the occasion when a Viceroy at Foochow first called upon a Consul, and, I believe, as such will be appreciated not only by myself but also by the several Consuls who were thus honoured.

Again expressing my appreciation of the visit of yourself and Admiral Davis, and the regrets of our country men that the time did not permit them to extend to you the courtesies which they would have so much enjoyed.

I have &c

(signed) J. C. A. Wingate.

U. S. Consul.

Despatch No. 400.
Enclosure 2.

No. 55.

Mr. Young to Mr. Wingate.

June, 3rd, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge, with my best thanks, the receipt of your despatch No. 85, having reference to my recent visit to your port.

It gave me great pleasure to visit Foochow, and I shall always remember the courtesy and hospitality shewn me, by you and also by the Chinese officials.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

dup Edwards

Acc. by mail Feb

No. 451. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 4th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Telegram in Mr. Hill's claim.

Synopsis.

Acknowledges receipt of telegram, and explains delay in taking action under it.

No. 451. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking June 4th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram, in Mr. Hile's claim, a copy of which I enclose. 1/451.

It was received by me before I had received your instruction number 238. of March 19th, and therefore was unintelligible. As soon as your instruction came I telegraphed at once

once to Peking the demand you requested. I make this explanation because I am anxious to have the Department understand that any delay in carrying out its instructions arose from circumstances over which I had no control.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.

1. Copy of telegram received from Department.

Despatch No. 451.
Inclosure.

Telegram.

Washington
2nd May, 1884.

Minister Young.

Answer about Mills'
claim.

Frelinghuysen.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards

Sent by mail to file

No. 452. Three Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 4th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Hill's claim.

Synopsis.

Covers copies of telegrams received and sent. Will report in detail later. Will endeavor to reopen question with H. E. on occasion of visit to Tientsin.

No. 452. Three Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 4th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, a copy of which I enclose, and to confirm my answer to the same which is also enclosed. I beg also to send you a copy of a despatch received from Mr. Holcombe which reached me in cipher May 26th, 1884. My absence from

1/452

2/452

3/452

from Peking our public duty compelled me to devolve upon that gentleman the presentation of the alternative proposition which formed the subject of your instruction number 238., dated March 19th.

As soon as I receive from Mr. Holcombe the details of his negotiations with the Yamen, I will send you a further despatch. In the meantime I shall avail myself of my approaching visit to Tientsin to reopen this question with the Viceroy, Li Hung Chang, and to endeavor

endeavor to induce
H. E. to consent to what
I believe to be on the
part of the Department
and Mr. Hill a most
considerate arrangement.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Fred Low Young

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Frelinghuysen to Mr. Young
Telegram — no date.
2. Mr. Young to Mr. Frelinghuysen
Telegram May 28th, 1884.
3. Mr. Holcombe to Mr. Young
Telegram. May 26th, 1884.

Despatch No. 452.
Enclosure 1.

Telegram.

Washington.

2nd May, 1884.

Minister Young.

Answer about Mills'

claim.

Frelinghuysen.

Despatch No. 452,
Enclosure 2,

Telegram.

May, 28th, 1884.

Frelinghuysen.

Washington.

Yancey renews -

offer pay principal Hill -

claim declining your -

proposition. -

Young.

Despatch No. 452.
Enclosure 3.

Telegram.

—

Pekin. 20th May, 1884.

Minister Young.

Shanghai.

Mills' claim Yamên

refuses Department —

proposition renews offer -

pay principal only.

Holcombe.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1884
RECEIVED.

Wm Edwards

Acct to Mr Hale

No. 453. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 4th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Claim of Mr. Peter K. L. Cole.

Synopsis

Refers to Department instruction number 242. No evidence discoverable that Mr. Cole has a claim against China. Refers to previous despatches. Has set further inquiries on foot at Shanghai.

No. 453. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking June 4th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your instruction number 242. of March 27th, 1884. in relation to the claim of Mr. Peter K. L. Cole against the Ward Estate, and asking for my report as to the validity of his claim so far as the papers to which he refers as being on file at the Consulate General will

will aid me in reaching a conclusion.

In response, I beg leave to refer you to my earlier despatches to the Department in regard to Mr. Seale's claim, being numbers 377. of March 10th, 396. of March 27th, 403. of March 29th, and 419. of April 7th. I may add that, as the result of further search in the archives of the Legation and further inquiry at Shanghai, nothing has been found to give any hope that Mr. Seale has a claim which the

Government

Government can prosecute against the Authorities of China. So far as can be discovered his name is not even mentioned in the voluminous papers on file here in connection with the "Ward," "Ward Estate," and "Keoyeo" claims.

In order however to leave no stone unturned in this business, I have furnished Mr. Cheshire with a copy of your instruction and Mr. Cole's letter, and have requested him to make further search for the documents which Mr. Cole asserts

to

to be of record in the office at Shanghai.

1/453. I enclose a copy of my instruction to Mr. Cheshire. The results of his inquiry will be forwarded to the Department at the earliest possible moment.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

T. Lansdell Young

Enclosure.

1. Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire. No. 143. June 4th, 1884.

Despatch No. 453.

Enclosure.

Mr. Young to Mr. Thrasher.

No. 143. One Enclosure.

June, 4th, 1884.

Sir,

Referring to my despatch No. 124 of March, 10th last in regard to an asserted claim of Peter K. L. Cole, of Omaha Nebraska against the Government of China, I have the honour to furnish you with a copy of an instruction recently rec'd from the Department of State covering a further letter from Mr. Cole. 1/143

You will note that Mr. Cole renews his assertion that full details of his claim were filed in the Consulate at Shanghai. In the light

light of this letter, and in order to enable me to comply with the instructions of the Department of State, I will thank you to have a further and exhaustive search of the archives of the Consulate General at the earliest possible moment, and to furnish me with certified copies of any papers that may be discovered bearing more or less directly upon Mr. Coles' claim.

I am &c

(signed) John Russell Young.

Enclosure

1. Mr. Frelinghuysen to Mr. Young.

No. 242. March 27th, 1884

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

Sec'y to file

No. 454.

W. Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 6th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions.

Synopsis.

Department instructions numbers 257. to 267. inclusive have been received.

No. 454.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 6th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your instructions as follows:

Number 257. of April 11th,

Number 258. of April 12th,

Number 259. of April 12th,

Number 260. of April 12th,

Number 261. of April 14th,

Number 262. of April 14th,

Number 263. of April 14th,

Number 264. of April 14th,

Number 265. of April 16th,

Number

Number 266. of April 18th 1,
Number 267. of April 18th 1,

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Dr. Rumsey

Sent by Scottfield

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

No. 455.

W. Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Appointment of Second Secretary to the Legation.

Synopsis.

Acknowledges Department instruction number 266, and thanks the President and the Department.

No. 455.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have had the honor to receive your instruction number 266. of April 18th, and desire to express to the President and to the Department my thanks for the appointment of a Second Secretary to this Legation. It will give me pleasure to welcome Mr. Rockhill into my official family.

I

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Gabriel Long

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

dest by no 1 file

No. 456. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Nationality of St J. H. Edwards.

Synopsis.

Department instruction number 263. received. The letter of Mr. Studer received and considered last March contains no evidence to invalidate conclusions reached by Department and Legation.

No. 456. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instruction number 263. of April 14th, 1884.

Mr. Goldsborough furnished the Legation, in March last, with a copy of Mr. Consul Studer's letter regarding the nationality of Mr. E. J. H. Edwards. I submit herewith, a copy of my despatch

1/456.

despatch in response to
your Consul at Amoy.

From it the
Department will see that
the Legation gave careful
attention to Mr. Studer's
statements but could not,
however, find any evidence
therein to invalidate the
record which Mr. Edwards
had made in his own
behalf and which the
Legation and the Department
had accepted as conclusive.

It is unnecessary
for me to add that any
such evidence would
receive prompt consideration
I have no interest but to

see

see that justice is done, and my chief regret in this proceeding is that the Legation has not been able to share the views of the Consul at Amoy.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Geo. Carter Young Jr.

Enclosure.

1. Mr. Young to Mr. Goldsborough No. 39. March 3rd, 1884.

Despatch No. 456.
Enclosure.

No. 39.

Mr. Young to Mr. Goldsborough.

March, 3rd, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No 163, dated, February, 9th, 1884.

I have read with care the letter of Mr. Consul Studer of Singapore. Mr. Studer remembers the details of a conversation with a venerable gentleman who believes that a person whom he knew nearly fifty years ago, was not an American citizen, but a native of the Bahama islands. This statement, which at best would be regarded as hereasy evidence - the narrator

narrator refuses to confirm in the form of an affidavit.

On the other hand Mr. Edwards submits to the Legation a volume of evidence shewing that he is and has been accepted as an American citizen, — and as such has for years held a responsible and confidential position in the consulate at Amoy. This evidence having been forwarded to the department, the honourable Secretary of State in his despatch — No. 184 dated, Nov. 17 decides that the claim of Mr. Edwards is established.

I cannot see any facts in the letter of Mr. Snider to justify me in changing my own judgment — & recommending the department to

do

do so. I should not hesitate if the evidence warranted. I have no vanity of opinion on the subject, and have been only anxious from the beginning to do what was just. so far as I could read the law and the evidence.

The question of the moral character of Mr. Edwards has never been considered, as it is a matter in which I have no concern, and in no way affects his citizenships. If he does not obey the laws, you have the power to compel him, so long as he remains within your jurisdiction.

I inclose for your information a copy of my letter to Mr. Edwards. This, I presume, is the communication

tion to which you refer in the closing paragraph of your despatch.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

---

1. Mr. Young to Mr. Edwards.

62/1883. August, 8th, 1883.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards
to
~~Mr Clay~~

No. 457. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 10th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Consular Agencies at Kiung Cho.
and Pak Hoi.

Synopsis.

The Legation has requested
the consent of the British
Minister to allow certain
British officers to fill these
posts.

No. 457. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 10th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith copies of a correspondence in regard to the service of certain British Consular Officers as Consular Agents of the United States at Kiungchow and Pakhoi. 1/457.

From it you will note that I have requested the consent of Her Majesty's Minister to the appointments as

as reported by Mr.
Cheshire.

Trusting that this action will meet with your approval,

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Geo. Turner Young

## Enclosure.

1. Mr. Cheshire to Mr. Young No. 261. May 20th, 1884
   Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire No. 141. June 3rd, 1884.
   Mr. Young to Sir Harry Parkes, 42/1884. May 26th, 1884.

Despatch No. 457.

Enclosure.

No. 261.

Mr. Pleasure to Mr. Young.

May, 19th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that Mr. Seymour has renominated (per his despatch 419 to State Depart.,) Mr. Gideon Nye to be U.S. Vice Consul at Canton. Mr. Seymour also informs the Department that the Consular Agencies under his jurisdiction are at present in charge of the following named gentlemen:- Viz:-

At Swatow:

Baron von Seckendorff.

German Vice Consul.

at Kiung chow or Hoikow

Thomas

Thomas Waters the British Consul, who has acted as U.S. Consular Agent since April, 30th, 1884 in place of Mr. J.R. Jordan who has been removed to another port. At Pakoi.

Octavius Johnson, Acting British Consul who continues to act as U.S. Consular Agent.

At Kiung Chow or Hoikow and Pakhoi, the only persons qualified to act as U.S. Consular Agent are the British Consular officers. Mr. Seymour has employed as Interpreter at his Consulate since April 1st, 1884. Mr. Chen Pei Woo one of the students who studied in America - It seems that Mr. Seymour had

reason

reason to believe that his former interpreter was an unreliable person and engaged in illicit business under the cloak of his official position, and to avoid bringing a reproach upon the name of his office he very wisely dismissed him.

I have &c

(Signed) F. D. Cheshire.

V. C. General in charge.

No. 141.

Mr. Young to Mr. Cheshire.

June, 3rd, 1884

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your despatch No. 261 dated, May, 19th, 1884 in which you inform me that Mr. Seymour has requested certain officials of the British Government to represent American interests in Kuing chow and Pakhoi.

I have requested H. E. the British Minister to give his consent to the gentlemen acting as requested by Mr. Seymour and shall acquaint you with his decision.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

No. 142/1884.

Mr. Young to Sir Harry S. Parkes.

Ningpo, May, 26th, 1884.

Sir and dear Colleague,

I am informed by the Consul at Canton that he has requested Thomas Waters, Esquire, H.B.M's Consul at Kiungchow and Octavius Johnson, Esquire, Acting British Consul at Pakhoi to represent American interests at those ports.

It will afford me great pleasure to be able to report to my government that these gentlemen have rendered us this service.

In the meantime I beg to renew to H.E. the assurances

of

of my most distinguished consideration.

I am Sir

(Signed) John Russell Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

W. Edwards
&
Dr St Clair

No. 458. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 11th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Tientsin Consulate.

Synopsis.

Mr. Pilcher having resigned, the British Consul has been requested to assume temporary charge of our interests at Tientsin. Calls the attention of the Department to the energy, discretion and faithfulness with

with which Rev. Pilcher discharged the duties of his office.

No. 458. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 14th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of certain correspondence having reference to the Consulate at Tientsin. From it you will gather that Mr. L. W. Pilcher, Vice Consul in charge, has resigned his position, and that, pending the appointment of a Consul or other arrangements, 1/458.

I have requested Her Britannic Majesty's Minister to allow the British Consul at Tientsin, to assume temporary charge of our interests there.

The Legation regrets exceedingly Mr. Pilcher's resignation. During his incumbency at Tientsin, by his energy, tact, and good judgment he has rendered valuable service to our interests and to the Government, and his departure from the post is universally regretted. And it is with great pleasure that I call the especial

attention

attention of the Department to the ability and faithfulness with which he has discharged the duties of his official position.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Sir. Russell Gurney.

## Enclosure.

1. Mr. Pilcher to Mr. Young No. 86. May 15th, 1884.
2. Mr. Cheshire to Mr. Young. No. 260. May 19th, 1884.
3. Mr. Young to Mr. Pilcher, No. 63. June 2nd, 1884.
4. Mr. Young to Sir Harry Parkes. 43/1884. June 6th, 1884.

Despatch No. 458.

Enclosure.

No. 86.

Mr. Pilcher to Mr. Young.

May, 15th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have this day tendered the Hon. Sec. of State my resignation as Vice Consul for the United States at Tientsin and have turned over charge to Mr. Arthur Davenport who has kindly consented subject to the approval of H. B. M's Minister at Peking to attend to the affairs of the Consulate pending arrangements to be made by H. E. or by the Consul General at Shanghai.

I am &c

(Signed) L. W. Pilcher.

U. S. Vice Consul.

No. 260.

Mr. Cheshire to Mr. Young.

May, 19th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that Mr. L. N. Pilcher has tendered his resignation as U. S. Vice Consul at Tientsin and has informed me that pending other arrangements to be made, Mr. Arthur Davenport has kindly consented - subject to the approval of H. B. M's Minister at - Peking - to take charge of our - interests at that Port. I have - approved of this arrangement, and have so informed the Department of State. As Mr. Pilcher did not give me

reasonable

reasonable notice of his intended resignation and departure for the United States it was impossible for me to consult with you, as required by Consular Regulations, before the temporary appointment of Mr. Davenport was made. Mr. Pilcher arrived in Shanghai to-day and leaves by the out-going American mail.

I have written to Tientsin requesting that this office should be informed as to whether H. B. M's Minister approves of Mr. Davenport assuming temporary charge of our interests at Tientsin.

I am &c

(Signed) F. D. Cheshire.

No. 63.

Mr. Young to Mr. Pilcher.

June, 2nd, 1884.

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your despatch No. 86, May, 13th, 1884 in which you inform me that you have tendered your resignation as Vice-Consul and turned over the business of the Consulate to Mr. Davenport.

This action meets with the approval of the Legation but I cannot let the opportunity pass without Expressing my sincere thanks for the energy, tact and ability which you have shewn in Serving the Government. It

will

will afford me great pleasure to make this communication to the Hon. Secretary of State. -

I am Sir

(signed) John Russell Young.

43/1884.

The United States Minister presents his compliments to His Excellency Sir Harry S. Parkes, &c. &c. &c. Her Majesty's Minister in China and begs leave to observe that he is in receipt of information that in the absence of any Consular Representative of the United States in Tientsin, Arthur Davenport, Esquire, has kindly consented to assume temporary charge of United States interests at that port provided the consent of Her Majesty's

Majesty's Minister be obtained.

The United States Minister will be deeply obliged if His Excellency Her Majesty's Minister is able to grant his assent to this arrangement.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June, 6th, 1884.

Form No. 3.

# CABLE MESSAGE.

## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

All CABLE MESSAGES received for transmission must be written on the Message Blanks provided by this Company for that purpose, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, and on the back hereof, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager. NORVIN GREEN, President.

| NUMBER | SENT BY | REC'D BY | No. OF WORDS | FROM |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17 | Ny | Aa | Bo | 15 | Chinkiang |

Received at Washn D C 915 Am June 16 1884.

To Frelinghuysen

Washington

Suggest transfer Smithers Tientsin Cheshire Peking pet Jog temporarily secretary interpreter

Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

W. Edwards

Ack. by mail 8/6

No. 459. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 16th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinese immigration.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 430. and covers a report from Mr. Seymour of certain inquiries pursued by him at Hongkong.

No. 459. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 16th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch number 430. of April 19th, in relation to the issue of certificates at Canton for Chinese immigrants to the United States, I have now the honor to enclose, for the information of the Department, a copy of a despatch received from Mr. Consul Seymour, and giving the results of certain inquiries

1/459.

inquiries made by him at Hongkong.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

(Robert H. Young)

Enclosure.

1. Inc. Seymour to Inc. Young. No. 69. April 1st, 1884.

Despatch No. 459.
Enclosure.

No. 69.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

April, 1st, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, agreeably with your instructions, issued and received since my communications of January, 31st and February, ultimo, on the subject of Chinese passengers Certificates, to make thorough investigation in Hongkong, in regard to that subject, I have, to the best of my humble ability, investigated these matters as thoroughly as it is possible to do, without being permitted to compare the genuine certificates, that were issued by the Chinese Official in Canton, with the documents held by Chinese passengers on the outgoing steamer to-day to San Francisco.

The

The agent of the Pacific Mail S. S Coy, - and of the Occidental and Oriental S. S. Coy in Hong Kong - Mr. Foster, would not consent that such a comparison should be made; although Captain - Barry, of the S. S. "City of Peking" stated he had no objection if the agent - consented.

From interviews with Mr. Foster, Capt. Barry, Chief Officer Friel, and Clerk Minton, I am led to believe, that, since the discontinuance of Chinese - Certificates in Canton, in November, 1883, the bulk of Chinese passengers from Hong Kong, or Canton, have gone to the Hawaiian Island, to British North America, to the Isthmus, and to Mexico; and that no bogus or - counterfeit certificates have been - issued; and that of the 1440 Chinese going to-day, about 400 are - returning to San Francisco, on - proper Certificates issued at the - San Francisco Custom House. - E -

look

work the precaution to bring from Canton three, able and trusty Chinamen to co-operate with me in these investigations; which have also been, since 29th ult., very thoroughly pushed through (native) channels, with the same result. -

Telegrams last week from the Hawaiian islands effectually terminated and prohibited Emigration of Chinese coolies. -

The steamers this winter generally went via Honolulu; but no more go there.

The S.S. City of Peking was advertised to go via Honolulu, until telegraphic prohibition against Chinese coolies was received; when the advertisement was changed to omit Honolulu, en route to San Francisco.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour. -

U. S. Consul.

Hongkong.

"Hongkong.-

Cheshire

American Consulate

Shanghai.

Inform Minister Chinese - passenger business apparently - straight; limited to returning - Californians, on San Francisco - certificates; and emigrants to - British and Mexican ports.

Honolulu emigration terminated.

Steamer to-day took R 400 - returning Californians, about 40 - Emigrants to British and Mexican - ports. -

Receiving promised immediate - attention Russell's revised claim, - about $4400, presented Friday upon completion wharf.

Seymour." -

Prepaid.

$28.16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 460. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 17th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Land rent at Shanghai.

Synopsis.

Forwards translation of a petition from certain Chinese firms at Shanghai requesting a reduction of land rent, and a copy of Mr. Young's reply declining to interfere.

No. 460. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking June 17th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward herewith a translation of a petition received at this Legation from certain Chinese business firms at Shanghai, in which I am requested to direct the foreign landowners concerned "to temporarily reduce their "land rent by one half." 1/460.

I enclose also a copy of my response declining 2/460.

to

to interfere.

The principal interest which the Department may feel in these documents will probably be found in the illustration which they furnish of the fact that Chinese officials are at liberty to interfere in purely business questions of this class even to the extent of invalidating or setting aside existing contracts.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young

Enclosures.

## Enclosures.

1. Translation of Chinese petition.
2. Copy of Mr. Young's " response.

Despatch No. 460.
Enclosure 1.

No. 55/1884.

Translation.

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:-

That they are interested in the lease of land in the foreign settlement at Shanghai, and the construction of buildings thereon for rent. That within the last two years, owing to the depression in the money market, one firm after another has closed business, and out of every ten premises nine have been empty, and hence the receipts of the undersigned have been less than one half what they formerly were.

The undersigned have memorialized the Shanghai Taot'ai and the Magistrate of the Mixed Court, requesting them

to

to lay the facts of the case before the land owners of the foreign concessions, with a request for a reduction of the land rent. And we have repeatedly laid before the land owners a statement of all the circumstances in English, with the reasons for a reduction of the land rent, but more than two months have elapsed and we have received no response. No one dares to take the initiative in the reduction of land rents. All agree indeed in declaring that it is difficult to arrange the question.

It is in our minds that in the port of Shanghai every one depends for his livelihood upon the commerce of the port. But unless some measures are devised to remedy the present commercial depression and restore prosperity everything will

go from bad to worse, and no recuperation will be possible. It appears to us after careful consideration that the reduction of the land rent is a remedy for these evils. The foreigners who have constructed premises for rent have reduced their rents from, as compared with last year, say $10. to $6. $5. or $4.; and there is no difference between land rents and the rents of buildings. As the foreigners have reduced the rents of buildings; the rents of land should naturally be reduced also, as a matter of Equity. The period for the collection of land-rents is at hand, and there are many cases involved. And among the owners of these premises are many who have been sued, and many who have either mortgaged their property for a debt or, the

owners

owners being absent, have left their property to friends to manage; the interests at stake amount to many millions of taels; and the interests at issue are without limit. The foreign merchants invest their funds here for purposes of gain, and in the present commercial depression not only will the Undersigned lose heavily, but the foreign merchants will also fail of any profit unless the land rent is reduced to correspond with existing circumstances.

We the Undersigned therefore beg to submit this statement of existing facts to Your Excellency for your gracious consideration, and beg Your Excellency to instruct your Consul at Shanghai to direct the foreign merchants concerned to reduce temporarily the land rents by one half, commencing with this summer, with the

understanding

understanding that when trade improves they may increase them again. —

And your petitioners will ever pray &c &c. —

Signed by: —

English Concession.

Changli, Kao yi, Chas feng, Tsin Hsiang, Chung Ho, Li Chi, Te Ho, Chin ming, Hsia Hsün, T'ai ping, Kung Pu chü, Heng Ta sheng, Kung Ping, I Ho. —

French Concession.

Mi lo, Tsin Chu Tang, Shou shan, Tang, Fa Kung sz.

Land owners in the American Concession not asked for signature. —

Shanghai, June, 5th, 1884. —

Despatch No. 460.
Enclosure 2.

No. 145/1884.

Answer.

Mr. Young to Changli, Kao Yi, Chao Feng, and other petitioners.

Peking, June 17th, 1884.

I have received and carefully considered your request that the United States Consul General at Shanghai be instructed to direct the various land owners concerned in the foreign concessions to reduce temporarily their land rents by one half, etc etc etc

In Western Countries the procedure, in the matter of the lease of land or buildings by the people, requires that the parties concerned come to a personal agreement as to the amount of rent. If thereafter it is desired either to increase

or

or diminish that amount, that again is a question to be discussed and satisfactorily arranged between the parties in interest, and with which the officers of the Government cannot interfere.

Your request that the land owners be directed to temporarily reduce the land rent cannot therefore be granted. —

(Signed) Jno. Russell Young.

Desp. Aug 27.

Mr Edwards

No. 461. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 17th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Tonnage Dues Regulations.

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 391. of March 22nd, and covers response of Prince Kung, agreeing to give five years notice of changes in these regulations.

No. 461. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 17th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

In reference to my despatch number 391. of March 22nd, 1884. in which was forwarded a copy of a joint note addressed by the " Diplomatic Body to " H. I. H. Prince Kung " objecting to certain " proposed modifications of the Tonnage Dues Regulations, I have now

the

461. the honor to submit a translation of the response made by H. I. H.

The Department will notice that the point made by us, for at least five years notice of any change in those Regulations, is yielded by the Government of China.

I have the honor to be, Sir. Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young

Enclosure

# Enclosure.

1. Prince Kung to
The Diplomatic Body.
22/1884. March 26th, 1884.

Despatch No. 461.
Enclosure.

No. 22/1884.

Prince Kung to Mr. Young &co.

Peking, March, 26th, 1884.

Your Excellency.

Upon the 5th instant I had the honour to receive a joint note from Your Excellencies in the matter of the levy of tonnage dues upon foreign vessels, and stating, in substance, that, in my note of December, 14th., I proposed that the General Regulations which has been in force for thirteen years, should be maintained, while, in that of June, 21st. I announced their abolition which was not strictly in accord with propriety, and could not be regarded as acceptable either in form or matter inasmuch as the abolition of the Regulations could not fail to be injurious to the Mail Steam Ship companies to-

whom

whom subsidies are paid by the several Governments concerned which subsidies are based upon these Regulations. If now these Regulations should be suddenly abolished the mail companies will be exposed to serious loss. And since the Chinese Government contributes nothing to the maintenance of these lines while it and the Chinese people participate in the advantages of regular and speedy communication, it would appear unjust that China on the other hand should impose loss upon them. In regard to the point whether the mail lines may or may not exercise their option to pay Tonnage Dues either under the Regulations or according to the Treaties, since it is maintained that the exercise of such option would positively interfere with the revenue. Y. E. are willing to defer to my objections. But you feel bound to urge that sufficient

notice

notice, which should not be less than five years, should be given of the change, in order to enable the mail Companies to modify their existing arrangements &c

In this question I have the honour to admit that in 1882 a modus operandi was laid before G.E. and that in 1883 the Regulations were abolished. But, in the meantime G.E.'s had all declared that, in the matter of mail S.S. lines, they must be allowed to exercise their option either to pay Tonnage Dues according to the new Rule or according to the Treaties. From this it was plain that you did not regard the new rule as satisfactory, but held that an optional policy for the mail lines was the proper course. As the Government of China feared that this optional procedure would result in irregularities in the Customs' revenue, its only recourse was the abrogation of the General Regulations in order

to

to secure a uniform procedure. Although the new was withdrawn and the old reverted to, this was only adopting as a rule the rule of the treaties. How can it be said that this was improper in fact or in form? -

Further, G. E's remark that the mail lines of S. St. have contracts with their several Governments - under which subsidies are paid, which subsidies are based upon these Regulations. Hence to suddenly abolish the Regulations would - subject the mail companies to loss. The Regulations were originally declared to be experimental. Since then they were explicitly denominated in the first instance as experimental, it ought to have been taken into - account that their abrogation might follow later on. And how could regulations which had been clearly notified as experimental, be

held

held as adopted in perpetuo? This Government cannot admit its responsibility for any losses suffered by the mail companies.

In regard to the statement that while the Chinese Government contributes nothing to the support of these lines, it, on the other hand imposes loss upon them, it may be remarked that while China does not in fact pay any subsidy, yet the sums paid by this Government and people for passage and freight differ in no respect from monies paid as subsidies to meet the deficit in the expenses of these lines, and hence it cannot be said that China contributes nothing to their maintenance.

In the conduct of this business, the Government of China has followed the treaties, and has without exception, regarded the rights of the matter.

As,

As, however H. E. urgently request that notice of five years should be given, this Yamên has again considered the question, and, as it is not expedient that it should be too unyielding in its decisions, must fix a period of five years from June, 21st., 1882., the date of the despatch in which the abrogation of the Rules was announced, to June, 20th., 1887, during which period it is specially agreed that subsidized mail S.S. at the one port, Shanghai, may still pay Tonnage Dues according to the experimental rules. After the expiration of this period all vessels must uniformly pay these dues according to the provisions of the treaties, and no further limit will be permitted. During the period of this notice vessels at no other port than Shanghai will be allowed to pay these dues according to the experimental regulations.

nor

nor will vessels of other classes be allowed to claim this concession as a precedent.

The Government of China, having in mind the maintenance of good relations and being watchful of the interests of commerce, makes this special compromise, and submits it for the consideration of Your Excellencies--

To. N. E. John Russell Young.
" " Sir Harry S. Parkes.
" " S. Rapoff.
" " Count de Rozdans.
" " M de Aribarri.
" " Count von Tallenbach.
" " Vicomte Semallé.

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1884

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 4 1884
RECEIVED.

Mr. Edwards

No. 462. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 18th, 1884.

Sent 8/6

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The transit pass question.

Synopsis.

Covers copy of a despatch from Consul Shepard at Hankow and Mr. Young's response thereto. Raises the question whether American citizens can legitimately act as men of straw for Chinese merchants

merchants in the use of transit passes, and asks the instruction of the Department upon this point.

No. 462. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 18th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to submit herewith, for the consideration of the Department, a copy of a despatch received from Mr. Consul Shepard at Hankow, and a copy of my response. 1/462. 2/462.

Mr. Shepard calls my attention to the refusal of Chinese officials in the interior to recognize transit passes

passes; to attempts made by them to levy octroi and other taxes upon goods covered by transit passes; he points out the injurious effect of such action upon our trade; and asks for the energetic intervention of the Legation.

The subject thus brought up, by no means for the first time in the history of this Legation, is one of grave importance, and, as Mr. Shepard has been informed, will have serious attention.

But in my reply I have felt obliged to express

a

a divergence of opinion upon one point raised in Mr. Shepard's despatch and it is to that point alone that, at the moment, I beg to ask the attention of the Department.

With his despatch were forwarded no less than thirty four transit passes issued to Mr. J. M. Burnett, an American citizen, and rejected by Chinese officials in the interior. In reference to these, Mr. Shepard remarks:—

" I do not claim that Mr.
"Burnett actually owned
"the goods (covered by these

" 34 passes) for he "
" undoubtedly acts for
" native traders, as I have
" explained in a former
" communication. But
" that should make no
" difference in the treatment
" of passes inward, since
" no distinction is made
" between natives and
" foreigners in the "
" protection the certificates
" warrant."

Upon this point I have replied to Mr. Shepard that, in my opinion, we cannot ignore the fact, if such a fact is known, that American merchants

are

are acting for Chinese principals, and are not themselves the bona fide owners of the merchandise covered and protected by transit passes taken out by them. And I have pointed out that, in the constantly recurring discussion of the transit pass system between the Government of China and foreign 4 Representatives, the former has always insisted and the latter admitted that, under the treaties, transit certificates can only be used legitimately by 4 foreigners to cover and protect

foreign

foreign owned merchandise.

The entire transit pass system is a creation of the treaties between China and foreign Powers. It was devised, not for the " advantage of Chinese merchants, but for the benefit of foreign exporters and importers by the substitution of a fixed internal tariff in place of the uncertainties and irregularities of the Chinese inferior and local systems of taxation. That commerce would be largely benefitted by the extension of the " transit pass system to " Chinese merchants is no

doubt

doubt true; but that is a question between the Government of China and its subjects with which we cannot interfere. We certainly ought not to allow our people to connive with subjects of this Empire in securing by surreptitious means to secure advantages to which they are not legitimately entitled.

The responsibility for the failure of the transit pass system to produce the good results expected of it, cannot, I fear, be laid wholly upon the Chinese. It is, on the one

hand

hand, true that local Chinese officials ignore and repudiate transit passes and thus violate the express provisions of treaty. But it is not less true, on the other hand, that at several of the ports are foreigners, merchants so called, but with neither capital nor connexion, who lend or sell their names to native firms in the use of transit passes thereby enabling the latter to evade the laws of the Empire. Hankow, as a port, has long been notorious for this form of abuse of

the

the transit pass system, and, by Mr. Shepard's declaration, it appears that Mr. Burnett has been doing this sort of work for Chinese merchants.

The whole system sadly needs revision and readjustment, but it is too much to expect that the Government of China will take efficient measures to put an end to the violations of the treaties by its local officers in this direction, until it has a practical assurance that foreign Powers will no longer permit abuses of

of the privilege by their people.

In this view the question raised, as to the right of American citizens to allow themselves to be used as figure heads or men of straw, by Chinese merchants in taking out transit passes, becomes of very serious importance, and upon it I beg to receive the instructions of the Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young.

Enclosures.

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.
   No. 95. April 7th, 1884.
2. Mr. Young in response
   No. 44. June 17th, 1884.

Despatch No. 462.

Enclosure 1.

No. 95.

Mr. Shepard to Mr. Young.

April, 7th, 1884.

Sir,

In my No. 90 I referred to the interference with Transit Passes inward, by Lekin Officials at points distant from Hankow, by which foreign goods were deprived of the benefits intended to be secured by the Passes, and were consequently subjected to an unjust taxation, en route, thereby largely increasing the cost of foreign products, to be borne by the native consumer. The effect of such course must be only prejudicial to trade, acting directly to prevent and curtail commerce in articles from foreign countries. Such is, moreover, an unquestionable violation of Treaty provisions, as conceded by the Tsungli Yamen to the Chinese Ministers abroad (In pamphlet and

pamphlet despatch No. 181, inclosure) and
which unequivocably recognizes the
fact that such certificates "cover
"goods from a treaty port to the place
"named in the certificate, exempting
"them from all taxes en route."

The matter, with other efforts
to interfere with foreign trade inland,
has been formerly reported to the
Legation, its importance has been
recognized, and a willingness
expressed to use all proper efforts
to secure a reform of abuses. But
at the outset the purpose was
weakened, and reformatory results
prevented, from the lack of positive
proof of native irregularities. No
doubt has ever been expressed of the
truth of my allegations, but in the
lack of collateral proof to sustain
them, definite action on the part of
the Legation was scarcely possible,
and I was asked to watch for such
proof. While perfectly assured of the

facts,

facts, I have never, until now, been able to secure such positive evidence as can not be denied by native officials, and some subterfuge brought forward to evade the conclusion of their undeniable hostility to the introduction of foreign manufactures into the empire. I now have in undubitable proof of a gross violation of the authority and force of Inland Transit Passes, and as in duty bound transmit the facts and evidence for the attention of Your Excellency.

I have the honour to enclose to you no less than thirty four Passes, pasted and attached together in one mass, and in this form returned to J. R. Burnett, the American shipper of the goods from this port. I do not claim that Burnett actually owned the goods, for he undoubtedly acts for native traders, as I have explained

in

in a former communication. But that should make no difference in the treatment of Passes inward, since no distinction is made between natives and foreigners in the protection the certificates warrant.

An inspection of the returned Passes, will shew that they were stopped and taken up at Yochow, a tax barrier near the mouth of the Tung ting lake. The officials there detain boats with foreign goods for an indefinite period, until a number of passes for the same destination are collected, and from that point onward to the end of the transit, the goods are forwarded unaccompanied, and of course unprotected, by the passes that should be with each separate lot of merchandize. They are, therefore, exposed to lekin taxation at every subsequent barrier passed. I have made investigation of the contingent

circumstances

circumstances, to discover them as accurately as possible, and find the following to be the facts.

1°. The goods sent by the route in question are mostly, if not entirely, piece goods of American and British manufactures.

2°. There are several long routes beyond the Tung Ting Lake, over which transit goods are conveyed, two of them being land routes. One leads southwest to Kweichow, and the other to the southern part of Szechuen. During the summer months, when the Yangtsze is in flood, the latter is closed for a time. My information is that on both routes there are several tax barriers, that the goods must pass, and as the transit certificates are separated from the goods at Yochow, it follows that they are unprotected for the entire distance beyond, and likin taxes are most undoubtedly collected

collected at every barrier, in accordance with Chinese custom in similar cases.

3°. The amount of such taxation I have been unable to learn, as it is of course kept concealed by the officials interested, but traders here admit that it exceeds the half duty originally paid for the transit pass to clear the goods.

The effect upon trade inland will be obvious, and it requires no argument to induce Your Excellency to take up a matter so important to American interests, and I leave it in your hands confident of wise action.

In regard to sea passes, I may add for your information, that on the requests of both Mr. Burnett and Mr. Jenkins I have recently applied for the issue of them. The answer of the Taotai to the applications in both cases

is,

is, that when the missing passes for previous years are returned those now asked for will be issued. The inference is that none will be issued to the applicants until then - and as their return is impossible, the decision is in effect a refusal to issue at all.

I am &c

(signed) Isaac F. Shepard.

U. S. Consul.

Enclosure 1 Page as above.

Despatch No. 462.
Enclosure 2.

No. 41.

Mr. Young to Mr. Shepard.

June, 17th, 1884.

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your despatch No. 95. The subject to which it refers will have careful consideration.

I may say however, that I do not share your opinion that we can ignore the fact, if such a fact is known, that American merchants are acting for Chinese principals and are not themselves the bona fide owners of the merchandize covered and protected by transit passes.

While it is true, as you say, that the Tsungli Yamên in its circular to Chinese Ministers abroad did recognize the fact that transit certificates "cover goods from a treaty "port to a place named in the "certificate, exempting them from "all

"all taxes en route", it is also true that the circular referred to maintains with equal plainness that, under the treaties such certificates can only be used legitimately by foreigners to cover and protect foreign owned merchandize. -

This interpretation of the treaties has always been steadily maintained by China, and, so far as I am aware, has never been disputed by any Foreign Government. A notable case may be found in the files of your own office, being that in which Mr. G. Jenkins claimed damages against the Chinese Government for the detention of goods under transit pass in 1874-5 and in which this legation declined to press his claim for damages because the burden of evidence went to shew that he was not the owner of the goods in question but was acting for Chinese principals.

I shall have occasion to -

address

address you further upon this important question at an early moment.

I am &c

(Signed) Jno. Russell Young.

Act by No. 463

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 14 1884
RECEIVED

Mr. Edwards

No. 463. Three Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 18th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State

Subject.

The "Keorjeor Claim"

Synopsis.

Refers to despatch number 445. and covers copies of correspondence and telegrams.

No. 463. Three Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 18th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir:

As a further reference to my despatch number 445, dated June 3rd, I have the honor to enclose copies of a correspondence between our Legation and the Foreign Office in reference to the "Keorjeor" claim. 1/463.

I also have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch in cipher

a

2/463. a copy of which I
enclose. I at once
telegraphed to Peking, as
you will find in another
3/463. enclosure. As soon as
I receive a reply I will
address you further on
the subject.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Thos. Lumley Gray.

Enclosures.

1. Copies of three notes between Mr. Holcombe and the Foreign Office.
2. Mr. Frelinghuysen to Mr. Young. Telegram May 24th, 1884.

3.

3. Mr. Young to Mr. Holcombe
Telegram May 30th, 1884.

Despatch No. 463.
Enclosure 1.

The Ministers of the Foreign Office
to — Mr. Holcombe.

Informal. May, 20th, 1884

Sir,

Some days since you came to this Yamên and stated that in the matter of the "Kowpien" claim you were directed to submit a proposition made by H. E. the Secretary of State that the interest on the claim should be reckoned at 5% per annum, and you handed us a memorandum shewing the amount due on the claim at that rate.

The undersigned Ministers of the Yamên have laid this matter before the Prince who holds to the mode of settlement proposed by this Yamen to H. E. Mr. Young last year, and which was stated substantially as follows:-

follows:-

"It has been repeatedly made
"clear that this claim was
"passed upon by the arbitrators
"as one that ought not to be
"paid. But as we are unwilling
"that a case involving so small
"a matter of money should
"remain so long unsettled, and
"we therefore propose as a
"compromise, and having
"sincerely in view the
"maintenance of good relations,
"to pay the principal sum due."

The friendly relations
existing between the two nations
are of the best, and we now again
propose, as has been already
stated to pay the principal sum
due and thus close this case.

We beg you to transmit
this response to H. E. the Secretary
of State.

Cards and compliments.

Mr. Holcombe to the Foreign Office.

Informal.

May, 21st, 1884.

Y. E.,

I have had the honour to receive your note of the 20th instant in the Keorjeor claim, being in response to a proposition for settlement which I had been directed to lay before you.

From it I understand Y. E. to reject the proposition made by N. E. the Secretary of State to close this case by the payment of the principal and interest thereupon at 5% per annum; and to renew a proposition made last year to pay the principal sum only. Y. E. request that your response be communicated to N. E. the Secretary of State.

This will of course be done at

at once by telegram. The unfavourable response of Y. E. cannot fail to be received with feelings of deep regret and disappointment.

I must beg Y. E. to bear in mind, as was stated explicitly when the proposition of H. E. the Secretary of State was laid before you, that, if not at once accepted in the same spirit in which it was presented, it would be withdrawn and could not be quoted by Y. E. in the future discussions of this case which must necessarily follow its rejection.

As it has been rejected it will therefore be understood that the demand of the Government of the United States in the Kearsarge Claim is, as heretofore, for the sum of Shanghai Taels 34,000. as principal with interest added

added at the rate of 10% per annum from August 1st 1863. to date of payment.

I have &c

/ Signed / Chester Holcombe.

The Foreign Office to Mr. Holcombe.

Informal. May, 23rd, 1884.

Sir,

Upon the 21st instant we had the honour to receive your note in the "Keerpoo Claim", in which it was stated that if the proposition made by H. E. the Secretary of State to settle this case by the payment of interest at the rate of 5% per annum were not accepted it must be understood to be withdrawn, &c &c.

In response we beg to state that, the arbitrators having in the first instance decided that this claim ought not to be paid, China, moved by a deep and sincere friendship for the United States, made a special concession, and offered payment of the principal sum due. But now

now you declare that if the proposition to pay interest at 5% per annum be not accepted, it will be withdrawn. And as you have already withdrawn your proposition, China can only, in a similar manner, withdraw its offer to pay the principal sum due.

Cards and compliments.

Despatch No. 463.
Enclosure 2.

Young.

Minister.

Peking.

Accept principal Hill claim leaving interest for future discussion. If receipt in full of claim, is demanded suspend finial action until further instructions.

Frelinghuysen.

29/5/84

Received, May, 30th, 1884 8.05 a.m.

Telegram.

29th May, 1884.

Young.

Minister

Peking.

Zohvu gfjdm pagjr gawal
uorhr Rordm caunh vbauc
ykeze akzto cobrd mpudz
vbhvo igrez ogunc pgkdy
mupvy zxpon ecash ujedm
zgkye mpuzm gawnw vgiut
mfaut ovxdf wvv.

Frelinghuysen.

Dispatch No. 463.
Enclosure 3.

Cypher telegram.

in

Translation.

Shanghai. 30/5/84.

Holcombe.

Peking. -

Port Jungchu.

Secretary cables (?) accept principal Hill claim leaving interest for future discussion if receipt in full of claim is demanded suspend final action until further instructions press earnestly for payment principal leaving interest open question.

Young.

Seal.

Rec'd Aug 15.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 14 1884
RECEIVED

Per Dr Edwards

No. 464. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 18th, 1884.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Retirement of Prince Kung.

Synopsis.

Covers translations of several Imperial decrees. States supposed causes of retirement

No 464. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June, 18th, 1884.

To the,
Honorable Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I enclose for your information copies of decrees issued by the Throne during my absence from Peking on official business. 1/464.

The important fact in these imperial declarations is the withdrawal of His Imperial

Imperial Highness Prince Kung from Public life) I am disposed to regard it as a withdrawal rather than a disgrace and the culmination of a long period of dissatisfaction with the Prince, because for reasons caused it is believed by bodily infirmities he has not taken an active part in public affairs. As the Department has had occasion to note in many despatches, the difficulty of transacting business with the Yamên has been almost incredible. The various Legations have had to complain

of

of delay, (omit indifference, vacillation)
and uncertainty amounting
at times to a practical —
suspension of business —
relations. While it is a —
matter of regret to the —
Legation that so courteous and
able a prince as His Imperial
Highness with whom our —
relations have always been —
of the most cordial character,
should retire from public —
life, the question is one in
which we have only a —
personal concern. If the
new administration will —
give the Yamên an element
of business efficiency the

change

change will be welcome to those who have relations with the foreign office.

Omit (My absence from Peking and from the current of opinions at the time of these important changes prevented me from sending you any comments upon their bearing.

Omit. The only foreign ministers with whom I have conversed on the subject was Sir Harry S. Parkes whom I met in Shanghai. His Excellency thought that whatever our personal sentiments may be as to the removal of Prince Kung and his colleagues

there

there was no cause for anxiety -
nor was the matter one in which
we had any real concern. Had
the decree been issued a few
days earlier when we were -
both in Peking we should -
probably have delayed our -
departure. A sudden return
to the Capital, however, because
of this issue would attach -
to a mere matter of Chinese -
politics an undue importance
especially as the new ministers
gave every assurance that -
they had no intention to -
disturb the good relations now
existing between China and
Foreign Powers.

Omit

I

I send the translations of the imperial decrees. One received from Mr. Holcombe, the other as it appeared in a Shanghai Journal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young.

Enclosures.

1. Translations of four Imperial Decrees.

Despatch No. 464.
Enclosure.

From the Peking Gazette of
April, 8th, 1884.

Decree.

The virtuous mandate of Her
Majesty, the Empress Regent
&c &c &c &c

At the present moment
when the good constitution of the
Government is not in a vigorous
condition, when Our difficulties
are great, public affairs are in
confusion and the people are
unquiet it is essential that States-
men be secured for the administra-
tion of internal and foreign
questions. As the Privy Council
is manifestly the pivot upon
which rests the administration of
native and foreign questions by
suitable agents. Prince Kung and
his associates were at the outset
careful

careful to protect the interests of the State, but now they have gradually betaken themselves to the tortuous ways of serpents and seek but their own advancement. In recent years honours and emoluments have day by day been heaped upon them and their recklessness has daily grown greater. Whenever the Throne has sought carefully to direct affairs they have subverted its efforts to their own purposes and have been unwilling to exert themselves in good faith in obedience to Its behests. They have been repeatedly memorialized against as full of concealments and reckless. Or it has been said that they were unclean vessels or that they could not discriminate between good and bad men.

The laws of the State are very severe and, if they were accused, like certain persons in past times,

of having usurped the powers of His Majesty, and subverted the administration of the Government, they have not only not the courage for such acts nor would the laws have permitted them to do so. But the disaster already induced by their faults as enumerated above are by no means light, and if We should not change Our plans, and should still be indulgent with them, how could We be said to reverently imitate the admirable principles devised and bequeathed to Us by Our Sacred Ancestors? And, how, when His Majesty shall in person assume the administration of the State, could He arrive, in all matters at the wisest principles of government? If We enumerated publicly in detail all the changes made and did not consider a second time the dignity of the Prince, then certainly We could not regard either

either old age or length of service, and how can the Throne with its generosity of administration consent to such a course? And hence, We could not bring Ourselves to such an action.

Prince Kung and the Grand Secretary Pao Chün having been in the Privy Council for many years the rebuke to them should be severe, but We remember that the one has had much illness and the other is advanced in years, and hence We now have specially in mind their past services and make full provision for their future. Let special grace be shewn to the Prince and let him retain for his heirs and descendants the full title of Prince of the first rank and all his allowances. Let him be deprived of all office and of the extra allowance made him as an act of grace

and

and let him remain at home to recover his health. Let Pao Chün retain his full rank but be deprived of office.

Li Hung tao, Assistant Grand Secretary of State and President of the Board of Civil Office, has been in the Privy Council many years. Being but of small ability he has transacted business in a halting manner.

Ching Lien, President of the Board of War, is only able to manage routine affairs and is incapable to handle questions of great moment. Let them both be removed from their present offices, degraded to the second rank and transferred to other positions.

Wung T'ung ho, President of the Board of Works, has but recently entered the Privy Council, at a moment when there is much business in hand. And while he has nothing

to

to say for himself, he also has been guilty of no offence. As an act of grace let him be stripped of his rank, removed from the Privy Council, but retained in the Board of Works and let him retain his service in the Palace as a discrimination in his favour.

The Throne has for a longtime scrutinized the spirit with which the Prince and Ministers have transacted business, and has become fully aware that they cannot exercise carefulness. And since it was to be feared that, as the detriment to the State became more and more serious, so their eventual punishment would increase in severity, We have had indulgence for them and dealt with them in a mild manner. It is not for some light offense nor for the complaint of some petty official that We have relegated them to idleness and degraded

degraded them in rank. Hereafter Officers of all grades must carefully avoid recklessness. Each must be faithful. Those whose business it is to suggest business to the Throne, let them present it honestly and it is hoped that they will in such matters take a broad view and consider remote results. The Throne will only examine the motive prompting such representations and will not rebuke the form. Nothing will be refused that may serve the interests of the Government. If there are either false commendations or accusations growing out of relations between various families, denunciations, and, most despicable of all, bribed accusations by hired informers made from motives of gain, the secrets of such transactions must be brought to light and punishment inflicted according to law without mercy.

Let all Know Our Will!

Respect

Respect this!

From Peking Gazette of
April, 8th

Decree.

The virtuous mandate of Her
Majesty, the Empress Regent.
Dee Dee Dee Dee

Let Prince Li be a member
of Our Privy Council. He need not
remain an Officer of the Presence,
nor Commander of Our Body Guard.

Let Ohlohopuh, President of
the Board of the Treasury, Yen Ching
mung, President of the Treasury, and
Chang Chihwan, President of the
Board of Punishments be Members
of Our Privy Council.

Let Sunn Yü wen, Senior
Vice President of the Board of Works
be Assistant Member of Our Privy
Council.

Respect this!

From Peking Gazette of.
April, 9th, 1884.

Decree.-

The virtuous mandate of Her Majesty, the Empress Regent.

Vee Vee Vee Vee

Whenever the Privy Council meet with business of grave importance let them take Prince Ch'ün* into consultation until such time as His Majesty shall in person assume the Government, when Our further pleasure will be made known.

Respect this!

* The seventh Prince - father of the Emperor. (S.) C.A.

From Peking Gazette of
April, 10th

in

Decree.

in

Let Lin Shu be placed in
temporarily in charge of the
seals and keys of Our Foreign
Office.

Respect this!

From Peking Gazette.

April, 12th, 1881.

Decree.

Let Yi Kuang, a Prince by Brevet of the second grade be appointed Chief Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and let Chu Te nun, Secretary of State and brevet Vice President of the Board of Rites be appointed a Minister of Our Foreign Office.

Respect this!

Omit

# THE CRISIS IN PEKING.

## DEGRADATION OF PRINCE KUNG.

A Decree written with the Vermilion Pencil.

We have reverently received the following commands from Her Imperial Majesty the Empress Dowager.

At the present moment the pristine vigour of the Empire is impaired, and the difficulties of the time are greater than ever; administration is mismanaged and the people find no rest. The services of capable men are absolutely required for the conduct of private affairs whether central or provincial. The Grand Council is the pivot upon which all administration internal and external turns. Yi Hsin, Prince Kung, and those associated with him were in the first instance fairly careful in their conduct and zealous in the assistance which they rendered, but as time went on they became self satisfied and thought only of securing their own aggrandisement, while of late years their daily increasing rank and emoluments have caused them to lapse into a corresponding condition of perfunctoriness. Every effort made by the Court to exert itself and to endeavour to exercise good government has been met by fallacious adherence to preconceived notions and an unwillingness to display any genuine exertion in the execution of its behests. Their conduct has been repeatedly criticised in detail by those who have the right to speak. They have been charged with concealment, with indifference to public interests, with corruption and with a want of perception in the selection of fitting agents. Now the Domestic Law of this Dynasty is stringent in the extreme, and if it be said that any member of the Imperial line, in imitation of someone of former generations, is anxious to usurp power and throw the Government into confusion, not only would no one dare to harbour the thought, but the Laws would not permit of the execution of such a design. Inasmuch however as the mischief wrought by the shortcomings above referred to is already by no means slight, if We continue to pursue a course of indulgent toleration and make no change in Our attitude, how shall We promote that policy of national dignity which is the legacy of our illustrious forefathers? How, too, when the Emperor in due course of time takes the reins of Government into his own hands, will he be able to carry out his various duties in a satisfactory manner? If We were to give publicity to each and every one of the denunciations that have been launched against them (the Grand Council), We could not continue to be influenced by considerations of kindred or high position, nor could We endeavour indirectly to protect them by reason of their age or long service, as this would be repugnant to the broad principles of magnanimity by which the Court is actuated in its administration of affairs. When We speak of these things or reflect upon them Our heart is filled with compassion.

Yi Hsin, Prince Kung, and the Grand Secretary Pao Yün have been longest in office, and upon them heavy punishment should rightly fall. But when We bear in mind that the one is afflicted with many ailments and that the other is stricken in years, We purposely take note of the past meritorious services of the first, and extend protection to the second as he nears the last stage of his journey through life.

As a special act of grace We command that Yi Hsin shall retain his hereditary rank of Imperial Prince of the First Order, which shall be secured to his family for ever, together with the emoluments attaching thereto. But he will be deprived of every office that he holds and the double allowances that were granted him as a special mark of benevolence, and he will remain at home and attend to his ailments.

Pao Yun will retire from office with his present rank.

Li Hung-tsao, Assistant Grand Secretary and President of the Board of Civil Office, has served in the Palace for years, but he is hampered by a want of ability and experience, with the result that he mismanages everything that he undertakes.

Ching Lien, President of the Board of War, can do no more than carry out his allotted duties in a mechanical way, but the power of organisation is not his strong point. Both these officers will relinquish all the offices they hold and be transferred to other posts with the deprivation of two steps of commutative rank.

Weng T'ung-ho, President of the Board of Works, has just entered the Grand Council at a time when there are many affairs on hand. Although he is not conspicuous for ability, there is on the other hand no blame to be attached to him. As an Act of Special Grace We deprive him only of his official rank and allow him to retain his office, but he will retire from the Grand Council, continuing as before to officiate in the Imperial School-room. This to manifest the discrimination We exercise in the awarding of punishments.

We have been quietly observing the motives and methods of the aforesaid Prince and high officers for some time past and We are aware that it is absolutely impossible that they can rouse themselves from the condition into which they have fallen, while there is every reason to fear that the deeper the mischief they work, the heavier will be the punishment they must receive. We have therefore done all in our power to save them by the infliction of the lightest penalty that their offence will permit of. It is not for the commission of an ordinary or trifling offence or by reason of a single impeachment by some officer of inferior rank that We have caused the Prince and high officers to retire into leisure or be deprived of rank.

From this time forth all officials, high and low, whether they be serving in the capital or the provinces, must positively be earnestly on their guard against the sin of perfunctoriness. Let them one and all give expression to their views with loyalty and sincerity, provided that their criticisms are just and equitable. Their aims must be far-seeing and wide in scope. We shall look only at the motive which prompts the suggestion and not at these suggestions themselves, but should this be of benefit to the state, they will never fail to meet with their due meed of praise and tangible reward. Partisanship, on the other hand, or favouritism, or the furtherance of private interests under the cloak of public aims, struggling for the supremacy, or backbiting, or, which is worse, conduct of a low and debasing character such as bribery and corruption, will assuredly be promptly unmasked and punished unmercifully, as the law requires.

Let this be universally made known.

1/52/1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 14 1884
RECEIVED

Dun Droards

No. 465.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 23rd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions.

Synopsis.

Department instructions numbers 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. and 275. have been received.

No. 465.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 23rd, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have had the honor to receive your instructions as follows:—

No. 268. of April 21st,

No. 269. of April 21st,

No. 270. of April 23rd,

No. 271. of April 25th,

No. 272. of April 30th,

No. 273. of May 3rd,

No. 274. of May 5th,

No. 275. of July 6th

and, a "declaration by the International

"International Association
"of the Congo."

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Thos. Fowell Esqr.

(XVb)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 14 1884
RECEIVED

dup Edwards

No. 466.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 23rd, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject:
The "Keorgeoh Claim."

Synopsis.
In response to Department instruction number 269.
The Legation has done and will do nothing to connect this claim with the Canton Indemnity fund. Is pressing the claim urgently.

No. 466.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, 23rd June, 1884.

To the
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No. 269 dated, April, 21st, 1884 in reference to the claim of Mr. Hill.

My despatches Nos. 445 & 463 dated, 3rd and 18th instants will acquaint the Department with my action. You will see from these that the question is still in

in abeyance. I hope however that long before you receive this despatch you will learn by cable that our negotiations have been successful.

I should regard it as fatal to our diplomacy here to have the return of the Canton indemnity fund associated with any private claim American citizens may have against China. I have steadily refused to say or do anything or to allow anything to be said or done by any member of the Legation that would put us even seemingly in the position of making a bargain. The

Viceroy

Viceroy Li quite understands the position of our Legation in this respect and I am glad to know that it is so fully in accord with the views of the Department as expressed in your despatch.

I note also your expression of sympathy arising out of the financial embarrassments of Mr. Hill. The Legation has long known that the payment of the Keorjeor claim is a matter of grave consequence to Mr. Hill and has not been unmindful of that consideration in its repeated and urgent demands upon the Government of China. For twenty years we have encountered

encountered every species of
delay and opposition and while
I am hopeful that we may have
better success with the new
proposal, I can give you no
idea as to the final action
of the Yamên.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Wm. Gamy.

Ack Aug 27.

Wm Edwards

No. 467.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, June 23rd, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Claim of Mr. A. A. Fisher.

Synopsis.

In response to Department instruction number 271. Summarizes what has been done.

No 1164.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 23rd June, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No 241, dated, April 25th, 1884, in reference to the claim of A. A. Fisher against the Government of China.

I found on looking over our archives that the claim of Mr. Fisher had not been discussed by this Legation with the Foreign Office, but had been exclusively

exclusively dealt with at Shanghai. -- The circumstances leading to it happened in Shanghai. Accordingly I directed the Consulate General to present the case to the local authorities, my intention being to move the Yamên when we have exhausted our efforts with the minor officials. The aversion on the part of the Governors of cities and provinces to have any question in which they are concerned brought under imperial supervision, has in many cases led to a settlement of claims like those of Mr. Fisher. Experience strengthens the belief that it is the most desirable way of dealing with them.

Anticipating

Anticipating a further despatch in which all correspondence will appear, I will add that Mr. Cheshire in a private letter has informed me that he had done what he could with the Taotai, but with no result. He therefore reserves it until my arrival in Shanghai, when I could speak with that official in person. I hope to be in that city in a day or so, and among the questions I have arranged for discussion with the Taotai is the claim of Mr. Fisher.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Thos. Francis Wade

Mr. Edwards

No. 468.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, June 24th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Claim of Mr. Peter K. L. Cole.

Synopsis.

In response to Department instruction number 272. Refers to despatch number 453. If any evidence on the subject is discovered it will be reported to the Department.

No. 468.

Legation of the United States

Peking, June 24th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have had the honor to receive your instruction number 272. of April 30th, 1884. in the matter of the alleged claim of Mr. Peter K. L. Cole against the Government of China.

In response I beg to refer you to my despatch number 453. of the 4th instant and to say that

if

if further inquiries now in progress at Shanghai should develop the existence of any evidence showing that Mr. Cole has a valid claim, such evidence will at once be brought to the attention of the Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Emerson Young.

Cable

10.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED.

RECEIVED JUN 25 1884 DEPT OF STATE

No. 3.

FROM Shanghai

June 1884

To Mr. Young U.S. Min. Corea

To Mr. Frelinghuysen,

Washington.

Cable sent to Asst Secy Hanagawa directing Stahel to go to Shanghai at once & Seidmore to go to Osaka relieving Young.

Recommend Stahel immediately going Shanghai

Young

Copy to Mr. Morey
June 10. 1884
per Cable

Shanghai,
June 29th, 1884.

To Frelinghuysen
Washington

Yamen declined payment principal Kill claim except — "
for receipt in full. Recommend
further pressure.

Young.

RECOMMEND FURTHER
PRESSURE

File

No. 469.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 5th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Receipt of instructions.

Synopsis.

Department instructions numbers 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. and 283. have been received.

No. 469.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 5th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have had the honor to receive your instructions as follows:—

No. 276. of May 10th, 1884.

No. 277. of May 10th, 1884.

No. 278. of May 12th, 1884.

No. 279. of May 14th, 1884.

No. 280. of May 14th, 1884.

No. 281. of May 14th, 1884,

No. 282. of May 15th, 1884,

No. 283. of May 19th, 1884.

I

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.
Jno. Russell Young

Rec'd Aug 27.

Mr. Adee
&
Mr. Edwards

No. 470.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, July 7th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Missionary steam launch on interior waters of China.

Synopsis.

In response to Department instruction number 280. gives some of the objections raised by the Chinese Authorities in the case.

No 470.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July, 7th, 1884.

Sir,

As a further reference to your instruction No 280, dated, May, 14th, 1884, I have the honour to say that the question as to the right of certain missionaries to use a steam-launch on the waters of the Yangtze was the subject of conversation, with the parties interested during my recent visit to Chinkiang. One of the objections to a steam launch owned by private parties, and not

To the,
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

not amenable to the Customs Regulations, having the right to cruize in their waters, was the fear that such a privilege might become a precedent. - The Conservative character of the Chinese, expressly under treaties which surround them with so many limitations - leads them to view with - apprehension what in other - countries would be an ordinary incident. My advice to the - owners of the Yacht, and to - the Consular Officials, was to exhaust the resources of - patience and persuasion; before opening what might

prove

prove to be an angry and I am afraid an untenable question. - The objection is not to the vessel solely as a missionary agency, but to its use of steam. My hope is that once the Chinese became accustomed to steam as a motive power in private vessels, there will be no trouble.

A further argument is that if private steam vessels belonging to missionaries are allowed the freedom of the waterways, the same privilege must be extended to merchants and others. From this it is feared abuses may arise, smuggling, evading Customs regulations revenue

dues

dues and so on. This fear, ~
makes the authorities jealous of
every right, the performance
of which is not expressly ~
guaranteed by treaty.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno Ross & Company

Ack Aug 27.

Ack.

Mr Edwards

No. 471. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 7th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Changes in the Foreign Office.

Synopsis.

Covers despatches notifying the appointment of ten new members, and comments on the present constitution of the Foreign Office.

No. 471. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 7th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

Referring to my despatch number 464. of the 18th, ultimo, in which the Department was informed of the retirement of H. I. H. Prince Kung and several other members of the Cabinet and Foreign Office from public life, I have now the honor to enclose 4 translations

1/471

translations of several despatches by which the Legation has been notified of the appointment of ten additional members of the Foreign Office.

The Yamen, as now constituted, contains fourteen members. Of the ten newly appointed little is known beyond the fact that they are, without exception, absolutely inexperienced in the conduct of foreign affairs, and are popularly supposed to belong to the so called "anti foreign"

"anti foreign party."

It is impossible, at this early moment, to conjecture what actual effect these appointments may have upon the relations between China and Western Powers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir.

Your obedient servant.

Geo. Frederick Young

Enclosures

1. Translations of four despatches from the Foreign Office.

Despatch No. 471.

Enclosure.

2/1884.

Prince Yi Kuang, and Ministers Lin, Chou, Ch'ên, Chou, Wu and Chang, herewith make a communication:-

Y.E.

Upon the 12th instant we had the honour to receive from the Grand Secretariat an Imperial decree as follows:- "Let Yi Kuang, a Prince by brevet of the second grade, be appointed Chief Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and let Chou Te-run, Sub-Chancellor of the Grand Secretariat and brevet Vice President of the Board of Rites be appointed a Minister of Our Foreign Office. Respect this!"

It becomes our duty to furnish Y.E. with a copy of this Decree for your information.

Hon. John Russell Young.

Peking, 15th April 1884.-

No. 29/1884.

Prince Yi Kuang and Ministers Wen, Lin, Hsü, Chou, Ch'ên, Chou, Wu, and Chang, herewith make a communication.

Y. C. i.

Upon the 19th instant we had the honour to receive from the Grand Secretariat the following Imperial Decree:-

"Let Yenching, minister
"President of the Treasury, and
"Hsü K'ang shên, Junior Vice
"President of the Board of
"Punishments be appointed to
"Our Foreign Office. Respect
this".

It becomes our duty to inform you of this fact.

Hon. John Russell Young
Pekin, April, 21st, 1884.

No. 37/1884.

The Prince and Ministers of the Foreign Office to Mr. Young.

June, 16th, 1884.

Y. E.:—

Upon the 9th instant we had the honour to receive from the Grand Secretariat His Imperial Majesty's Decree as follows:—"Let Chang Yin "huan Intendant of the Hwei, "Ning Ch'ih Tai and Kuang "circuit in Anhwei be relieved "of his duties, be granted the "third official rank and "appointed a Minister in Our "Foreign Office on probation. "Respect this!"

It becomes therefore our duty to inform you of this appointment.—

Hon. John Russell Young.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 40/1884.

The Foreign Office to Mr Young.

June, 30th, 1884.

Y. E.

Upon the 24th instant we had the honour to receive the decree of His Imperial Majesty, through the Grand Secretariat as follows:—

"Let Ku Kun, President
" of Works, K'un Wang, President
" of the Colonial Office, Hoi Chên,
" Senior Vice President of the
" Censorate, Hsü Yung Yi, Junior
" Vice President of the Board of Works,
" and Liao Shou heng, Grand
" Secretary act be Ministers in
" our Foreign Office. Respect
" this"

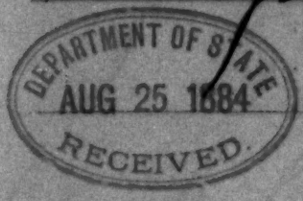
It therefore becomes our duty to furnish Y. E. with this information.

H. E. John Russell Young

Rec'd Aug 27. Ack. Mr Edwards

No. 472. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.




Peking, July 7th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State

Subject.

Assessors in Consular Courts.

Synopsis.

Refers to Department's instruction number 278. Has communicated its substance to the Consuls.

No. 472. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, July 7th, 1884.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have had the honor to receive your instruction number 278. of May 12th, 1884. in response to my number 372., and I have made the Consuls acquainted with the views of the Department upon this important question as you will see by the enclosure. 1/472.

2.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Jno. Russell Young

Enclosure

1. Jno. Young to the Consuls. July 7th 1884.

Despatch No. 472.

Inclosure.

Circular to Consuls.

No. 146. July 7th, 1884.

Sir,

As a further reference to my despatch No. 122, dated March 5th, I have the honour to say that the views therein contained have met with the approval of the Department of State in the following terms:-

"The name of every citizen of "the U. S. residing within the in- "jurisdiction of the Consul of good - "repute and competent for the duty "should appear on the list when "submitted for the approval of the "Minister.

"No one should be excused from "service except by the Consul in his "judicial capacity during the progress "of a cause, and for good and sufficient "reasons, which should appear as a "part of the record of the case."

By

"By reference to the provisions
" of Section 4107 of the Revised Statutes
" you will observe that, in civil cases,
" the list shall include only such
" citizens of the U. S. as are actually
" residing at the port for which the
" Consul is appointed."

I communicate to you this opinion of the Department for your guidance in case the question should come before you in your judicial capacity. —

I am &c

(signed) John Russell Young

Asst

ack. by mo. & file.

No. 473. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 8th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Recent visit to Ningpo.

Synopsis.

Covers copies of correspondence between Mr. Stevens and the Taotai at Ningpo in relation to Mr. Young's visit.

No. 473. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 8th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a despatch received from Hon. Consul Stevens covering certain correspondence between him and the Taotai in reference to my recent visit to Kiungpo. 1/473.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

Jno. Russell Young

Enclosure.

# Enclosure.

1. Insr. Stevens to Insr. Young.
No. 52. June 24th, 1884.

Despatch No. 473.

No. 52. Enclosure.

Mr. Stevens to Mr. Young

June, 24th, 1884.

Sir,

In accordance with your request while here, I did on the 29th of May, the day after your departure, communicate to H. E. the Taotai ma tze liang, the following letter.

"ma ta jen. —

Acting Taotai ree

Sir,

H.E. Hon. John Russell Young, U.S. Minister, requested me just before leaving, to address your Excellency a letter expressing his sincere thanks for the cordial greeting extended to him on his visit yesterday. He was much impressed with your warm reception and wished me to assure H.E. that he should ever remember

it

it, and upon his arrival at Peking, he should take pleasure in reporting to the Tsungli Yamên the hospitable manner in which you rec'd him and the magnificent display which your soldiers made. He also expressed his gratification to hear that our mutual relations are so friendly and pleasant and he hopes they will always remain so. Admiral Davis also desires me to again express his sincere thanks for your hospitable reception and assures you that he will ever remember with pleasure his visit. Allow me also personally to thank you and once more assure you of my high personal regard and admiration. I enclose with pleasure the cards as requested; the names of the officers—

Sincerely

(signed) Edwin Stevens.—

Consul.

Enclosure.

Mr. Saotai to Mr. Stevens.

June, 1st, 1884.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Kind letter of yesterday, the contents of which are duly noted. I feel deep regrets that I could not entertain your Hon. Minister, the Admiral and the other Officers more hospitably and that my soldiers made such a poor display - I feel deep humiliation, and I venture to pray your Hon. Consul to convey my deep regrets to your Hon. Minister and the Admiral. If you do so, I shall be exceedingly grateful.

I am &c

(Signed) Ma

No. 474. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 8th, 1884.

Aug 27

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Application of Gideon Nye, Esq.

Synopsis.

Forwards Gen. Nye's application for appointment as Consul, and Gen. Young's response. Commends him to the consideration of the Department.

No. 474. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 8th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose copies of a # 1/474.
correspondence with # 2/474.
Gideon Nye, Esquire, now
our Vice Consul at Canton.

Mr. Nye is an old gentleman, perhaps the oldest American resident in China. Formerly a merchant prince, the # reverses of trade fell upon him as upon others.

He

He enjoys the universal respect of the community for integrity courtesy and good feeling to all. It is difficult to make any recommendation in the case of Mr. Hyer, as even his most partial friends must recognize the fact that advancing years must limit his capacity for usefulness. At the same time his claims upon your consideration are great, and I commend them to your attention.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, Your obedient servant.

Jno. Lamont Gow

Enclosures.

# Enclosures.

1. Gov. Frye to Gov. Young
64/1884. May 31st, 1884.
2. Gov. Young in response
48/1884. July 7th, 1884.

Despatch No. 474.

No. 64/1884. Enclosure 1.

Mr. Rye to Mr. Young.

Canton, 31st. May, 1884.

Sir,

Having heard of possible impending Consular vacancies in China, I have intimated to Mr. Consul Seymour my desire to avail of any such; and beg leave to apprise Your Excellency thereof.

I greatly prefer the post here; and if assured of succeeding to it within 18 months, would willingly await that solution of my aspirations. But I can less afford to wait than younger men; and I beg to submit that the promotion that I earned in my voluntary and gratuitous services of 1857-1863 at Macao (giving, at same time the Equivalent of $4,600. in salary a/c to the Sanitary Commission and $1000 -- to Davis for Soldiers

and

and Sailors) should not be forfeited because as a, then, prosperous merchant, I allowed my claims to lapse; since now I am in all the greater need because of my generosity during my Country's need. Assured by the courteous tenor of H. E.'s despatch of Feby. 14th, 1883, that I may count upon the good offices pertaining to your influential Station, I beg their exercise at the present moment of impending Changes; and meantime tender my services, here or elsewhere, in view of the need of extraordinary provision to meet the exigencies of the occasion, which it now occurs to me may induce H. E. to call Mr. Seymour away from his post.

Abstaining from further trespass upon Your Excellency's attention.

I am &c

(signed) Gideon Nye.

U. S. V. Consul for Canton.

Despatch No. 474.
Enclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. Rye.

No. 48/1884. Enclosure.

7th July, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter dated May 31st. I shall be happy to forward it to the Department, and in doing so, say, that it will give the Legation great pleasure to know, that an American citizen who has rendered so much efficient and patriotic service as yourself had met with due recognition.

I am &c

(signed) John Russell Young.

Rec'd Aug 27.

W. Edwards

No. 475. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 9th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 25 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Condition of affairs at Canton.

Synopsis.

Covers copies of correspondence with Hon. Consul Seymour upon this subject.

No. 475. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 9th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to transmit herewith for your information, a copy of a very interesting dispatch from Mr. Seymour on the condition of affairs at Canton, and a copy of my response. 1/475 2/475.

I regard Mr. Seymour's action, as therein reported, as discreet and prudent. At the same time it has been

been pointed out to him that if, for sanitary reasons, the Consular Body consent to or even request the withdrawal of Chinese troops from the foreign quarter during the hot summer months, such action does not in any way lessen the responsibility of the Chinese Authorities for the protection of the lives and property of foreigners, and he has been advised to make this point clear to the Authorities.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your

Your obedient servant.

Geo. Seymour Evans

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.
No. 78. June 10th, 1884.
2. Mr. Young in response
No. 90. July 1st, 1884.

Despatch No. 475.
Enclosure 1.

No. 78.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

June, 10th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you, that during last week, a marked change occurred in regard to the temper of the Cantonese, touching public affairs; and especially in reference to peace and war measures.

A moderate feeling of acquiesence was prevelent since the peace negotiations between China and France were made public, until about Tuesday, 3rd inst.; when one of the Chinese newspapers in Hong Kong published an inflamatory and mischievous article, to the effect that peace between China and France is yet a matter of uncertainty, or improbability, as France must be whipped, before China can honourably accept peace. That ill advised

publication

publication obtained much publicity in Canton; where it produced a prevalent feeling of dissatisfaction among the Cantonese; who seem to be willing to believe that "Li Hung Chang" has betrayed Chinese interests and honour.

All who had opportunities to discern the temper and tone of the populace, in and about Canton, concur in the statement that much earnest feeling prevailed against the peace arrangements. The war spirit is yet strong.

In business circles the theme was uppermost. In missionary circles the popular disquietude occasioned more or less solicitude.

In consular circles the disturbed temper of the people was noticeable; and not only apparent; but in one case palpable.

Matters are this week becoming more quiet; and unless similarly aroused, the excitement will pass away

away, under the influence of the conservative elements in the body-politic. War talk is yet loud. — Imperial Com.r Gen Pauncefote & Admiral Dewey is said to be hot for war.

No one estimates the numerical strength of those conservative elements at over five per cent of the population, in connection with the question as to approving or disapproving of the basis on which recent peace arrangements were made, notwithstanding all foreigners feel certain that China would suffer severely in a war with France, or with any of the Great Western Powers.

The French Consul M.r Ristelhueber, personally, one of the most amiable and courteous of gentlemen, remarked, in an interview yesterday morning, that he has never been so much insulted, while passing through the city, as on Wednesday 4.th inst.; but, last evening

evening, after his return from another visit to the Viceroy, upon French claims, no bad feeling appeared or had demonstration, and a perceptible improvement in the temper of the people was manifested on the streets.

Among the missionaries who experienced considerable solicitude was Miss Harriet F. Noyes, who learned a raid upon her school of over one hundred Chinese Christian girls was freely threatened by outlaws seeking concubines. And what increased her solicitude was the assurance given to her by the peaceable shop-keepers and residents (natives), who aided in guarding her school during the riots of 1883, that they would offer her no further protection.

These facts may be of interest to the Legation of the U. S. in Korea; as they indicate the facility with which

which disturbances occur in Canton; and the necessity for constant watchfulness and vigilance against surprises.

A meeting of the foreign community of Shameen is called at the Club House for Thursday evening, 12th inst., to consider the expediency of adopting measures for the removal of a portion or the whole of the Chinese soldiery from Shameen, for sanitary reasons, mainly, in view of the approaching hot season; and the fear of contagious diseases among the native soldiers.

The call for that meeting was issued before, and without reference to, the occurrences of last week, herein detailed; and with good motives. It should be stated, however, that the conduct of the soldiers on Shameen, for the past nine months, has been surprisingly good; and when it is known, that, with the exception

of

of the soldiers guarding the two (East and North) bridges between the city and Shameen, who are "Regulars" from the northern or Central part of China, — nearly all of the native soldiers on the Bund, and around the military head Quarters of Colonel "Lo Kee" on East end of "Shameen", are ruffians and outlaws, and the clansmen and associates of the worst villains in Canton; and it is believed many of those now guarding the foreign community on Shameen, were engaged in riot and pillage — against foreigners here last — September.

Anomaly is no name for it. The scheme is a Chinese demonstration of the power of Employment with — pay in regulating turbulant — forces. It is a transformation from desperation to comfort, from despair to hope — from crushed to the crusher.

These foreigners, who have had much

much experience in China, assure me we are safer with such soldiers, than with the better disciplined, and less docile, soldiers from the North.

At my suggestion, the German, French, British and American Consuls met yesterday at 11 O'clock a.m. for consultation as to the best course to pursue in reference to the question which is coming before the meeting of the Shameen Community on the 12th inst.; and we met again at the same hour to-day, for the purpose of securing co-operation from the Commercial Consuls, representing Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden & Norway.

As a result of our deliberations we are united in the policy briefly indicated in a note I addressed to the British Consul, 7th inst.; in which my views were thus stated. I have suggested to Senior Consul Travers that he should call a Consular meeting soon, to

consider

"consider the question involved in the
"Call for a meeting of residents at the
"Club House, as to removal of Soldiers.
"It becomes us Consuls to studiously
"avoid any complicity with proceedings
"which might, in any degree, lessen
"the responsibility of the Chinese
"Authorities." The Consuls resolved
unanimously as above.

An intercalary 5th month occurring
this year, "the Second Dragon boat
"festival" comes off 27th inst; and
if that passes off without tumult,
matters will probably get quiet.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul.

Despatch No. 475.

No. 90. Enclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour.

July, 1st, 1884.

Sir,

I have rec'd and read with care your interesting despatch No. 78 dated June, 10th, 1884 in reference to the condition of affairs in Canton.

The resolution offered by you at the meeting of the Consular Body in regard to the removal of the Chinese soldiery from the Shamien, during the summer months was discreet. It is proper to bear in mind that it was because of the absence of Chinese troops last autumn that the riot began, that by Chinese troops it was suppressed and that they have since that time been encamped on the Shamien to assure the safety of foreign residents. The condition of

public

public sentiment at Canton as it appears from your despatch is such that it is advisable to have troops within reach and not as was the case during the riots, miles away. Therefore, if the troops for sanitary reasons are removed from the Shameen it will undoubtedly occur to yourself and your colleagues to make it clear to the authorities that this removal does not diminish their responsibility for your protection.

(signed) Jno Russell Young.

Mr Chadwick

1 One Enclosure

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 12th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 10 1884
RECEIVED.

Chester Holcombe to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Salary account.

Synopsis.

Forwards a statement of this account for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

No. 1 Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking July 12th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of my salary account for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Chester Holcombe

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Salary account for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

ed by mail to Fate

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 10 1884
RECEIVED

No. 476.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 12th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinese immigration.

Synopsis.

Refers to Department instruction number 277. The earlier instruction number 188. has been laid before the Chinese Government.

No. 476.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 12th, 1884.

Honorable T. F. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

In response to your instruction number 277. of May 10th, in relation to Chinese immigration to the United States, I have the honor to inform you that your earlier instruction, number 188. of December 3rd, 1883. has been translated into Chinese and given personally to the Foreign Office, a copy being left with

with the Ministers at their request. They received the communication pleasantly but made no particular comment upon it.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Jno. Rowan Ewing

No. 477. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 12th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 10 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to
the Secretary of State.

Subject

Salary account.

Synopsis.

Forwards a statement of this account for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

No. 477. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, July 12th, 1884.

Honorable T. F. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a statement of my account for salary for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884. 1/477

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant.

Geo. Cushing Young

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Salary account for quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

No. 478. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 12th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 10 1884
RECEIVED.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Legation rent account.

Synopsis.

Forwards a statement of this account for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

No. 478. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 12th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of the rent account of this Legation for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884. The Department will notice that the draft as drawn was for $750. gold, less the accumulated difference between gold and Mexican dollars $248.36 or, say for $501.64 gold.

I

478

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.
Geo. Pumeen Gary

Enclosure.

1. Legation rent account for quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 22 1884
RECEIVED

No. 479. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 15th, 1884.

John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Incidental expense account.

Synopsis.

Forwards statement of this account for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

No. 479. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, July 15th, 1884.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of the incidental expense account of this Legation for the quarter ended June 30th, 1884. No 479.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Geo. Cameron Gregg

Enclosure.

Enclosure.

1. Incidental expense account for quarter ended June 30th, 1884.

July 13/84